COMMONWEALTH BUREAU OF CENSUS AND STATISTICS,
CANBERRA, AUSTRALIA.

LABOUR REPORT.

1951.

No. 40.

PREPARED UNDER INSTRUCTIONS FROM THE RIGHT HONORABLE
THE TREASURER
BY
S. R. CARVER,
ACTING COMMONWEALTH STATISTICIAN.

5343.

PREFACE.

The first Labour Report issued by this Bureau was published in 1912. This Report is the fortieth of the series and deals chiefly with 1951, in addition to providing comparisons for previous years. Some of the tabulations, however, include particulars relating to 1952.

The Report follows in the main the lines of its immediate predecessors in scope and arrangement. In view, however, of anomalies which have become evident of recent years the classification of causes of industrial disputes has been made on a revised and improved basis, while tables showing the results of disputes have been discontinued. The subject-matter has been divided into five Chapters, viz., Retail Prices and Price Indexes; Wholesale Prices and Price Indexes; Wages and Hours; Employment and Unemployment (including Industrial Disputes); and Labour Organizations. The index at the end of the volume will considerably facilitate reference.

In tabulating the results of investigations as to rates of wage, labour organizations, unemployment, industrial disputes, &c., the following grouping has been adopted in this Report:—

Groups of Industries and Occupations.

I.	Wood, Furniture, Sawmills, Timber-works, &c.	VIII.	Mining, Quarrying, &c.
II.	Engineering, Metal Works, &c.	IX.	Railway and Tramway Services.
III.	Food, Drink, and Tobacco—Manufacture and Distribution.	X.	Other Land Transport.
IV.	Clothing, Textiles, &c.	XI.	Shipping, Wharf Labour, &c.
V.	Books, Printing, Bookbinding, &c.	XII.	Pastoral, Agricultural, Rural, Horticultural, &c.
VI.	Other Manufacturing.	XIII.	Domestic, Hotels, &c.
VII.	Building.	XIV.	Miscellaneous.

Secretaries of trade unions and of employers' associations, officials of Commonwealth and State Departments, private employers, retail traders, house agents, and others have readily supplied much information specially for the purposes of this Report, and my thanks are tendered to all who have thus assisted.

Grateful acknowledgment is also made of the continued assistance given by the Statistical Offices in the various States, especially in regard to the collection of retail prices.

I also desire to express my appreciation of the work done in the preparation of this Report by Mr. F. Stewart, B.Com., the Supervisor of the Prices Branch, Mr. T. J. Fallon, B.A., until recently the Supervisor of the Employment and Labour Branch, and the staff under their control.

S. R. CARVER,
Acting Commonwealth Statistician.

Commonwealth Bureau of Census and Statistics,
Canberra, A.C.T., 8th January, 1953.

SYNOPSIS.

Page.

CHAPTER I.—RETAIL PRICES AND PRICE INDEXES.

§ 1. Collection of Information as to Retail Prices 1

§ 2. Retail Price Indexes—

1. General 2
2. Essential Features 3
3. The Regimen 3
4. Purpose of Retail Price Indexes 3
5. Effects of Abnormal Conditions on Indexes 4

§ 3. Various Retail Price Indexes 4

§ 4. Retail Price Levels ("C" Series Index) 1914-1952—

1. Significant Dates 5
2. All Items ("C" Series) Retail Price Index, Six Capital Cities, 1914-1952 6

§ 5. Increases in Retail Prices since Outbreak of War in 1939—

1. Australia 7
2. International Comparisons 8

§ 6. Construction of All Items ("C" Series) Retail Price Index—

1. The Regimen 10
2. The Mass Units (or "Weights") and Method of Tabulation 13
3. Relative "Aggregate Expenditure" of Items and Groups 15
4. Base Periods of the Indexes 16
5. Relative Population Weights for Towns 17

§ 7. Tabular Statements of Retail Price Index-Numbers—

1. General 18
2. All Items ("C" Series) Retail Price Index 18
Six Capital Cities, December Quarters, 1939, and 1946 to 1951 .. 19
Six Capital Cities, November, 1914, to November, 1920 20
Thirty Towns 1914, and 1921 to 1951 21
Additional Towns, 1939, and 1941 to 1951 24
"Group" Index-Numbers of "C" Series, Thirty Towns—1914, 1921, 1939 and 1944 to 1951 (Food and Groceries, Housing, Clothing, Miscellaneous) 25
3. "B" Series Retail Price Index: Food, Groceries and Rent 28
Six Capital Cities, 1907 to 1951 28
Groceries 28
Dairy Produce 28
Meat 28
Food and Groceries 28
Housing (4 and 5-roomed Houses) 28
Food, Groceries and Housing 28
Thirty Towns, 1914, 1921, 1939 and 1944 to 1951—Groups and Total 29

§ 8. Retail Price Index-Numbers, 200 Towns 32

§ 9. Changes in the Regimen—

1. General 32
2. Revision of 1936 33
3. Method of Effecting Changes 34
4. Continuity of Indexes 34
5. The Regimen under War Conditions 35
6. The Regimen since 1945 35

§ 10. Retail Price Indexes and Basic Wage Variations—

(i) "A" Series Index 38
(ii) "B" Series Index 38
(iii) "C" Series Index 38
(iv) "D" Series Index 39
(v) Food and Groceries 39
(vi) The "200 Towns" Series 39
(vii) The "Court" Index 39

§ 11. Scales Used for Automatic Wage Adjustment 40

§ 12. International Comparisons: Retail Price Index-Numbers 42

Page.

CHAPTER II.—WHOLESALE PRICES AND PRICE INDEXES.

§ 1. General 45

§ 2. Wholesale Price (Basic Materials and Foodstuffs) Index—
1. Price Quotations 45
2. Commodities and Grouping 45
3. Method of Construction 45
4. Index-numbers, 1928 to 1951 47
5. Effect of Wool Bounty 48

§ 3. Melbourne Wholesale Price Index—
1. General 48
2. Index-numbers, 1861 to 1951 49

§ 4. International Comparisons : Wholesale Price Index-Numbers, 1939 to 1951 .. 50

CHAPTER III.—WAGES AND HOURS.

§ 1. Arbitration and Wages Board Acts and Associated Legislation—
1. General 52
2. Laws Regulating Industrial Matters 52
3. Methods of Administration 52
4. Awards, Determinations and Agreements in Force 55
5. New Legislation and Special Reports 56

§ 2. Rates of Wage and Hours of Labour—
1. General 57
2. Adult Male Weekly Wages—States, 1891 to 1951 59
3. Adult Male Weekly Wages—Australia—Industrial Groups, 1891 to 1951 59
4. Adult Female Weekly Wages—States, 1914 to 1951 61
5. Adult Female Weekly Wages—Australia—Industrial Groups, 1914 to 1951 62
6. Weekly and Hourly Rates of Wage, and Weekly Hours of Labour, 31st December, 1951—
(i) General 62
(ii) Adult Males 63
(iii) Adult Females 64
7. Adult Male Hourly Wages—States, 1914 to 1951 65
8. Adult Female Hourly Wages—States, 1914 to 1951 66
9. Nominal Weekly Hours of Labour—Adult Males, States, 1914 to 1951 67
10. Nominal Weekly Hours of Labour—Adult Females, States, 1914 to 1951 67
11. Nominal and Effective Wages, 1911 to 1951 68
12. Productive Activity 71

§ 3. Standard Hours of Work—
1. General 71
2. The 44-hour Week 71
3. The 40-hour Week 72

§ 4. The Basic Wage and Child Endowment in Australia—
1. The Basic Wage—
(i) General 73
(ii) Acts in Force 73
2. The Commonwealth Basic Wage—
(i) General 73
(ii) Basic Wage Inquiry, 1934 76
(iii) Basic Wage Inquiry, 1937 77
(iv) "Lag" in Adjustments 78
(v) Basic Wage Inquiry, 1940 78
(vi) "Interim" Basic Wage, 1946 79
(vii) Basic Wage Inquiry, 1949–1950 81
(viii) Rates Operative, Principal Towns, November, 1952 83
3. Basic Wage Rates for Females 83
4. Australian Territories 89
5. State Basic Wages 96
6. Royal Commission on Basic Wage, 1920 106
7. Child Endowment 108

Page.

CHAPTER IV.—EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT.

§ **1. Employment—**
1. General 110
2. Total Occupied Persons—
(i) Australia, 1933 to 1947 110
(ii) States, July, 1939 and June, 1947 112
3. Wage and Salary Earners in Civilian Employment—
(i) Australia, Industrial Groups, 1939 to 1952 114
(ii) States, 1933 to 1952 115
(iii) Factories, by Main Classes, 1939 to 1952 117

§ **2. Unemployment—**
1. Total Persons Unemployed 118
2. Unemployment in Reporting Trade Unions—
(i) General 119
(ii) Australia, 1891 to June Quarter, 1952 119
(iii) Australia, by Industrial Groups, 1951 120
(iv) Australia, by Industrial Groups, September Quarter, 1939, and Quarterly, September, 1950, to June, 1952 121
(v) States, 1951 121
(vi) States, 1932 to 1951, and Quarterly, March, 1949, to June, 1952 122
3. Unemployment, Various Countries, 1951 123

§ **3. Commonwealth Employment Service** 123

§ **4. State Labour Exchanges** 125

§ **5. Commonwealth Unemployment and Sickness Benefits—**
1. General 125
2. Maximum Rates of Benefits and Income 125
3. Means Test 126
4. Waiting Period 126
5. Special Benefit 126
6. Rehabilitation 126
7. Unemployment Benefits 127

§ **6. Industrial Disputes—**
1. General 127
2. Industrial Disputes in Industrial Groups, 1951 128
3. Industrial Disputes, 1939 and 1947 to 1951 131
4. Duration of Industrial Disputes 132
5. Causes of Industrial Disputes 135
6. Results of Industrial Disputes 136
7. Methods of Settlement 137

§ **7. Industrial Accidents—**
1. General 139
2. Mining Accidents, 1951 139

CHAPTER V.—LABOUR ORGANIZATIONS.

§ **1. Labour Organizations in Australia—**
1. General 141
2. Trade Unions—Number and Membership, 1939 and 1948 to 1951 .. 141
3. Trade Unions—Industrial Groups, 1939 and 1948 to 1951 142
4. Trade Unions—Numbers of Male and Female Members and Ratio to Wage and Salary Earners—
(i) States, 1951 143
(ii) Australia, 1939 and 1948 to 1951 143
5. Trade Unions—Classification according to Number of Members, 1939 and 1948 to 1951 144
6. Interstate or Federated Trade Unions, 1939 and 1948 to 1951 .. 144
7. Central Labour Organizations, 1939 and 1948 to 1951 145
8. Organizations Registered under the Conciliation and Arbitration Act 146

§ **2. International Labour Organization—**
1. General 147
2. The 35th Session 147
3. Governing Body 147

Page.

APPENDIX.

Section I. Average Retail Prices of Chief Food and Groceries Items, each Capital City, monthly, 1951 148

„ II. Weekly House Rents in Metropolitan and Provincial Towns, 1939 and 1946 to 1951 154

„ III. Average Retail Prices of Food in Principal Cities: Australia and Other Countries, 1951 155

„ IV. "Court" Index (Second Series), December Quarter, 1949 to December Quarter, 1950 158

"Court" Index (Third Series), December Quarter, 1951 to December Quarter, 1952.. 159

„ V.—Retail Prices—Extract from the Report of Proceedings of the Conference of British Commonwealth Statisticians held at Canberra, November, 1951 160

„ VI. Minimum Rates of Wage and Hours of Labour for Adult Male Workers, 31st December, 1951 163

„ VII. Minimum Rates of Wage and Hours of Labour for Adult Female Workers, 31st December, 1951 177

„ VIII. Weekly Rates of Wage and Hours of Labour: Australia, Great Britain and Northern Ireland and New Zealand 180

„ IX. Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration Basic Wage Rates, 1923 to 1953 183

„ X. Comparative Index-numbers (1911 Base), Six Capital Cities, 1911 to December Quarter, 1952—Retail Prices, Wages and Unemployment 186

INDEX 187

GRAPHS.

1. Wholesale and Retail Prices: Nominal and Effective or Real Wages—Index-numbers, Australia, 1911 to 1952 51

2. Wages and Salary Earners in Civilian Employment, Australia, 1939 to 1952, by main Industrial Groups 113

3. Industrial Disputes: Working Days Lost in Industrial Groups, Australia, 1937 to 1951 130

4. Industrial Disputes: Working Days Lost, Australia, 1913 to 1951 133

CHAPTER I.—RETAIL PRICES AND PRICE INDEXES.

§ 1. Collection of Information as to Retail Prices.

The retail prices of the extensive range of commodities and services in common demand (generally referred to as the "regimen") used in compiling the All Items ("C" Series) Retail Price Index (*see* list on pages 11–13 hereof) have been ascertained at frequent and regular intervals since 1923 for each of the six capital cities and for 27 of the more important towns of Australia. Comparable information is available for the month of November in each year 1914 to 1922 for each of the six capital cities.

The retail prices of food and groceries in approximately 200 towns throughout Australia were collected as at November of each year from 1913 to 1942 when collection was discontinued.

Retail prices of food and groceries and average rentals of houses for earlier years extending back to 1901 were collected by this Bureau, and in some cases have been recorded by the Statisticians of various States as far back as 1864.

The methods by which prices used in the "C" Series Index are ascertained and the measures adopted to ensure their accuracy and comparability are briefly as follows:—

(i) Representative and reputable retailers are selected for each city and town covered by the index and each is required to furnish information as to prices monthly in respect of food and groceries and quarterly in respect of other items. Prices for each item are obtained where practicable from ten or more retailers in each of the capital cities, and from five or more retailers in each of the provincial towns. To cover all commodities in the regimen, collection is made from approximately 60 retailers in each capital city and 30 in each provincial town.

(ii) Information is collected under authority of the *Census and Statistics Act* 1905–1949 which requires that information be supplied accurately and promptly and ensures that particulars supplied by individual retailers will not be divulged to any other person or Government authority. Penalties are provided against failure to supply information, against supplying false information and against failure to answer truthfully any question asked by an authorized officer in respect of the contents of any return.

(iii) The actual collection of returns is carried out by qualified Field Officers of the Commonwealth Bureau of Census and Statistics working under the supervision of the Statisticians of the respective States. These Field Officers have very wide powers of investigation, including entry of premises and inspection of goods, records, etc.

(iv) The Field Officers not only receive and check returns but visit the retail shops concerned, whenever necessary, to obtain requisite information. In respect of articles of clothing and the like where variation of quality may be considerable, Field Officers are equipped with samples of the goods used for price comparisons. In such cases the Field Officers visit every retail informant at each quarterly collection and personally inspect the relevant goods and prices thereof.

(v) Before each quarterly collection Supervising Field Officers review the standards of the whole of the items for which prices are collected after making extensive inquiries among manufacturers, wholesalers and retailers. These Supervising Field Officers periodically accompany Field Officers at their price collections and check their work. This not only ensures accuracy and assiduity but also that all Field Officers work on uniform lines and that, as far as care and effort can make it possible, prices for identical goods and quality will be recorded at all times and for all places.

(vi) The list of items in the regimen and the standards thereof are revised from time to time to keep them in harmony with changing conditions. Where such changes become necessary suitable adjustment is made in computing the retail price index to ensure that it reflects changes in price with due precision and that it is not vitiated by the influence of other changes. (*See also* § 9, page 32 below.) Because of rapidly changing conditions since 1948, prices have been ascertained for a large number of items not embraced in the index and for an increasing number of types of "regimen" items. The purpose of this is to ensure that the index is kept representative and reliable within its definition.

(vii) Returns of rents for unfurnished houses of four and five rooms are made at the middle of each quarter by a representative number (ranging up to 30) of house agents in each city and town covered by the index, for brick and wooden houses respectively, classified according to number of rooms. These returns show the weekly rental of a substantial number of individual houses each of which is selected by the Field Officer as suitable for inclusion in a sample designed to measure the quarterly ratio of change in weekly rentals. The aim is to measure variations equivalent to change in price for a constant standard. The ratio of change is used to vary basic average rentals derived from the Census of 1933 and other records and was checked with the results of the Census of 1947. Although expressed in money terms, the average rentals as published are essentially indexes. As such they do not necessarily indicate the average amount of rental actually paid for all rented houses, and still less do they indicate the rental at which vacant or new houses can be rented (*see* footnote (*b*) on page 10).

§ 2. Retail Price Indexes.

1. **General.**—The basic principle of a retail price index is relatively simple. It is to select commodities representative of the field to be covered and to combine their prices at regular intervals in accordance with their relative importance in that field. The aim is to measure the degree of change in prices for the selected field taken as a whole.

In practice the application of this principle over a term of years presents great difficulty by reason of the numerous changes which occur in the type, grade and relative quantities of many of the items commonly used.

A full explanation of the methods adopted and an analysis of problems involved is contained in the Appendix to Labour Report No. 9.

For convenience the group of selected items is called a " regimen ", and the quantities consumed per annum of each item used in the index are called " mass units " or " weights ". These terms are used herein. In compiling the index the price of each item is multiplied by its quantity " weight " and then by its appropriate population or household " weight ". The sum of these products for all items at any given date represents an " aggregate expenditure ". The " aggregate expenditures " for successive periods are converted into an index by denoting the aggregate of a selected or " base " period as 1000, and calculating all index-numbers to such base by the proportions which their aggregates bear to that of the base period. (*See* § 6 (2), page 13.)

2. **Essential Features.**—Apart from clear thinking, common sense and sound arithmetic, the prime essentials in compiling a retail price index are—

(*a*) that prices be accurately ascertained at regular intervals for goods of constant grade and quality ;

(*b*) that the regimen be as representative as possible of the field to be covered ;

(*c*) that the weights be in approximate proportion to quantities actually used in the selected field.

3. **The Regimen.**—The regimen must be a selected regimen because it is impossible in practice to ascertain at regular intervals prices of every item of goods and services entering into household expenditure. Even in normal times there is considerable difficulty in ensuring that the selected items are always a true sample. Some items which it would be desirable to include must be excluded because comparative prices cannot be accurately ascertained for them at different times and different places. It is deemed better to limit the regimen of the index to items for which price variations can be ascertained with reasonable accuracy than to distend the regimen by including items for which price comparisons are necessarily inaccurate. Similarly, many items of small aggregate or individual importance are excluded. The regimen of the index therefore is not (as is sometimes erroneously supposed) a basic wage regimen nor yet is it a full list of component items in a standard of living. It does not imply that any particular goods or any selected grades or quantities of these goods should enter into determination of a basic or living wage. In fact the regimen used for the " C " Series Index is simply a selected list of items combined in certain proportions for the purpose of measuring price variations. The items are representative of the fields covered, and the proportions approximate to those in average consumption so far as can be ascertained.

The regimen and " weights " used in the " C " Series Index are published in full on pages 11 to 13.

4. **Purpose of Retail Price Indexes.**—Retail price indexes are designed to measure the extent of changes in price levels only. While they may be used as indicating proportionate variations in cost of a *constant* standard of living, they do not measure the absolute cost of any standard of living, nor the cost of changes in the standard of living. In other words, they measure as nearly as may be the proportionate change in the aggregate cost of specified quantities and qualities of the selected regimen of items included in the index. The regimen is representative of a high proportion of the expenditure of wage-earner households. (*See* middle of page 37.)

5. **Effects of Abnormal Conditions on Indexes.**—Under abnormal conditions since 1940, scarcity of certain types of goods, erratic supply and changes of grades in common use have created unusual difficulty in obtaining the data necessary for measuring variations in prices. In some instances, this has rendered it necessary to substitute new grades, qualities or types of articles for those formerly used as indicators of changes in price. This has been the case more particularly in the clothing, household drapery and household utensils sections of the regimen. Substitutions of similar kind were necessary at times under normal conditions in order to meet changes of fashion and usage. Such substitutions are not injurious to the index provided the transitional difficulties can be solved as they arise. No change in principle is involved. The index continues to measure, as accurately as may be, price variations, and price variations only. Just as in the pre-war period, those differences in prices which are solely due to substitution of a new item for one which has ceased to be available or in common use are neutralized by taking the price of the old item as typical of price variation in its class up to the time of substitution, and the prices of the new item as typical of such changes in price thereafter.

In normal times, popular usage of items in general consumption changes slowly and the weight of items and groups in the regimen is changed only at long intervals. In abnormal times, scarcity of supplies of some goods, rationing and kindred factors actually produce short term changes in usage. The weights applicable to the items in the regimen cannot, however, be changed frequently and at short intervals. (*See* § 9 (5), page 35.)

§ 3. Various Retail Price Indexes.

Two main series of retail price index-numbers are compiled and shown in some detail in the following pages, namely :—

(i) the " B " Series Index relating only to food, groceries and housing, continuously available from 1907 ;

(ii) the " C " Series Index relating to food, groceries, housing, clothing, household drapery and utensils, fuel and light, and other miscellaneous items of household expenditure, continuously available from 1914.

The " B " Series Index comprises only the food, groceries and housing sections of the " C " Series Index. Reference is made on pages 38 to 40 of this Report to the " A " Series Index and the "D" Series Index (which are no longer compiled), the " Court " Series Index and various other series of retail price index-numbers.

The " C " Series Index in total provides a reliable measure of aggregate variations in retail prices (as well as of group indexes for component sections) of a high percentage of goods and services used in wage-earner households. This index is compiled for :—

(*a*) the capital city of each of the six States,
(*b*) four other principal towns in each of the six States,
(*c*) weighted average of five towns (including capital city) in each of the six States,
(*d*) weighted average for the Six Capital Cities combined,
(*e*) weighted average for the Thirty Towns (including capital cities),
(*f*) separate indexes for Warwick, Port Augusta, Whyalla and Canberra.

The "C" Series Index forms the basis of the "Court" Series Index used by the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration for the "cost of living" adjustments of wages prescribed by awards made by the Court. (*See* §§ 10 and 11 of this Chapter.)

§ 4. Retail Price Levels ("C" Series Index) 1914-1952.

1. **Significant Dates.**—The aggregate indexes for November, 1914, 1921 and 1922, and the years 1923 to 1951, for the Thirty Towns are published in summary form on pages 21–23 hereof, while the following table furnishes the relevant index-numbers for the Six Capital Cities as a whole, for certain significant dates since November, 1914—the earliest date for which this index is available.

ALL ITEMS ("C" SERIES) RETAIL PRICE INDEX-NUMBERS.

WEIGHTED AVERAGE OF SIX CAPITAL CITIES.

(*Base:* 1923–27 = 1,000.)

1914, November	687	(Beginning of War I.)
1918, November	905	(End of War I.)
1920, November	1,166	(Post-War peak)
1922, November	975	(Post-War trough)
1929, Year	1,033	(Pre-Depression peak)
1933, Year	804	(Depression trough)
1939, September Quarter	916	(Pre-War II.)
1943, March Quarter	1,123	(Pre-Price Stabilization)
1943, June Quarter	1,143	(War II. peak)
1945, September Quarter	1,126	(End of War II.)
1952, December Quarter	2,243	

The index rose by approximately 32 per cent. during the first world war and by a further 29 per cent. in the two post-war years (November, 1918, to November, 1920). From November, 1920, to November, 1922, there was a fall of 16 per cent., and the index remained relatively stable until the onset of the depression in 1929. During the four years of the depression 1929 to 1933 the index fell by 22 per cent., rising thereafter steadily until 1939 when it was nearly 14 per cent. above the level of 1933, and approximately at the level it had occupied at the date of the Armistice of 1918. Between the outbreak of war (September, 1939) and March, 1943 (pre-price stabilization), the index rose by approximately 23 per cent. to a level slightly below that reached at the height of the post-war boom in 1920. Compared with March Quarter, 1943, the index-number at the close of the war was practically unchanged. At December Quarter, 1952, the level was approximately 92 per cent. above that of the 1920 peak period.

Immediately after the outbreak of the war, price control was established by the Government under Regulations dated 28th September, 1939, and a national policy of price stabilization was applied as from 12th April, 1943, backed by more stringent price control and price subsidies. The retail price level, as measured by the index, remained relatively steady

throughout 1944 and 1945 at the level of March, 1943. This stabilized level was approximately 23 per cent. above that of 1939 and 63 per cent. above the level prevailing at the beginning of the first world war in 1914. Since June Quarter, 1946, war-time controls, subsidies, etc., have been progressively modified and inflationary influences have supervened. The retail price index for December Quarter, 1952, was 145 per cent. above that of September Quarter, 1939, and 99 per cent. above the level of September Quarter, 1945.

An account of price control measures and of price stabilization in Australia was published in *Official Year Book of the Commonwealth* No. 37, pages 458–463 and No. 38, page 414.

2. **All Items ("C" Series) Retail Price Index, Six Capital Cities, 1914-1952.**—The movement in the various groups of the index and in the index as a whole for each year for which it has been compiled is shown in the following table for the six capital cities combined :—

All Items ("C" Series) Retail Price Index and its "Group" Index-Numbers (*a*) for the Six Capital Cities combined, 1914 to 1952.

(*Base of Each Group : Weighted Average of Six Capital Cities,* 1923–27 = 1,000.)

Period.	Food and Groceries.	Housing (4 and 5-roomed Houses).(*b*)	Food, Groceries and Housing (4 and 5-roomed Houses) ("B" Series).	Clothing.	Miscellaneous.	All Items ("C" Series) Index.
1914 (*c*)	641	649	644	754	749	687
1915 (*c*)	842	659	777	792	786	782
1916 (*c*)	812	665	760	881	802	795
1917 (*c*)	836	685	782	992	882	847
1918 (*c*)	861	722	812	1,097	972	905
1919 (*c*)	1,026	768	934	1,238	1,036	1,022
1920 (*c*)	1,209	851	1,082	1,365	1,194	1,166
1921 (*c*)	950	877	924	1,246	1,010	1,013
1922 (*c*)	945	929	939	1,052	999	975
1923	1,009	950	988	1,045	999	1,003
1924	969	988	975	1,003	1,004	987
1925	998	1,008	1,002	991	992	997
1926	1,023	1,026	1,024	986	998	1,011
1927	1,000	1,030	1,011	975	1,008	1,002
1928	985	1,066	1,014	997	1,010	1,009
1929	1,044	1,073	1,054	996	1,007	1,033
1930	941	1,047	978	951	999	975
1931	826	901	852	853	973	873
1932	796	817	803	804	958	830
1933	751	804	768	787	950	804
1934	783	810	792	785	944	817
1935	806	839	818	783	946	832
1936	825	879	844	792	947	850
1937	851	912	872	811	960	873
1938	886	942	906	829	961	897
1939	927	965	939	841	962	920
1940	939	973	950	956	998	957
1941	947	976	956	1,118	1,060	1,008
1942	1,031	976	1,007	1,308	1,112	1,091
1943	1,037	975	1,011	1,440	1,160	1,131
1944	1,026	976	1,004	1,435	1,165	1,126
1945	1,034	975	1,009	1,425	1,161	1,126
1946	1,036	976	1,010	1,505	1,167	1,145
1947	1,100	977	1,050	1,566	1,199	1,188
1948	1,256	979	1,145	1,744	1,257	1,295
1949	1,394	982	1,230	1,997	1,338	1,415
1950	1,566	987	1,336	2,286	1,435	1,560
1951	2,041	1,009	1,634	2,749	1,679	1,883
1952	2,526	1,057	1,947	3,096	1,958	2,196

(*a*) *See* footnote (*a*) on page 10. (*b*) *See* footnote (*b*) on page 10. (*c*) November.

items by 115.5 per cent. These when weighted and combined in the proportion of the "C" Series Index showed a rise of 147.8 per cent. For the Six Capital Cities as a whole the increase over the period was 144.9 per cent.

All Items ("C" Series) Retail Price Index.

Percentage Increases September Quarter, 1939, to December Quarter, 1952.

Group.	Sydney.		Melbourne.		Brisbane.		Adelaide.	
	"C" Series Index.	Group Index.	"C" Series Index.	Group Index.	"C" Series Index.	Group Index.	"C" Series Index.	Group Index.
Food and Groceries	(a)66.7	185.7	(a)63.4	173.3	(a)60.9	171.5	(a)57.7	162.8
Housing (4 and 5-roomed Houses)	(a) 3.7	14.3	(a) 0.7	2.9	(a) 3.0	13.1	(a) 6.2	27.2
Clothing ..	(a)55.9	282.2	(a)56.0	284.2	(a)57.2	270.3	(a)56.3	268.3
Miscellaneous ..	(a)21.5	115.5	(a)22.2	113.1	(a)20.1	98.6	(a)22.1	105.9
Total ..	147.8	147.8	142.3	142.3	141.2	141.2	142.3	142.3

Group.	Perth.		Hobart.		Six State Capitals.(b)		Canberra.	
	"C" Series Index.	Group Index.	"C" Series Index.	Group Index.	"C" Series Index.	Group Index.	"C" Series Index.	Group Index.
Food and Groceries	(a)59.5	158.4	(a)66.8	183.1	(a)63.8	176.2	(a)64.8	163.6
Housing (4 and 5-roomed Houses)	(a) 7.9	35.1	(a) 4.2	17.8	(a) 3.2	13.1	(a) 0.5	2.2
Clothing ..	(a)56.8	279.4	(a)55.6	268.8	(a)56.2	280.0	(a)55.6	283.2
Miscellaneous ..	(a)21.9	112.3	(a)21.8	113.1	(a)21.7	111.8	(a)18.7	110.9
Total ..	146.1	146.1	148.4	148.4	144.9	144.9	139.6	139.6

(a) Dissection of percentage rise in total index to show amount due to rise in each group.
(b) Weighted average.

The foregoing comparisons refer to two points of time (i.e., the months immediately preceding the war and the closing months of 1952), at each of which special temporary factors may have influenced relative price levels. For instance, prices of certain foods (e.g., meat) fluctuate with seasonal conditions. The percentage increases shown do not, therefore, necessarily indicate the degree of increase due solely to causes peculiar to the war and post-war period.

2. **International Comparisons.**—The following table shows the increase during this period in Australia and certain other countries. The increases during the first world war have also been included.

All Items ("C" Series) Retail Price Index and its "Group" Index-Numbers (*a*) for the Six Capital Cities combined, 1914 to 1952—*continued.*

(Base of Each Group: Weighted Average of Six Capital Cities, 1923–27 = 1,000.)

Period.	Food and Groceries.	Housing (4 and 5-roomed Houses).(*b*)	Food, Groceries and Housing (4 and 5-roomed Houses) ("B" Series).	Clothing.	Miscellaneous.	All Items ("C" Series) Index.
Quarter—						
1939—September ..	920	967	936	836	961	916
1945—March ..	1,028	975	1,005	1,421	1,161	1,123
June ..	1,037	975	1,011	1,416	1,161	1,125
September ..	1,040	975	1,013	1,415	1,161	1,126
December ..	1,030	975	1,007	1,448	1,161	1,129
1946—March ..	1,036	976	1,010	1,456	1,164	1,134
June	1,042	976	1,014	1,494	1,167	1,145
September ..	1,029	976	1,006	1,521	1,167	1,146
December ..	1,037	976	1,011	1,550	1,170	1,156
1947—March ..	1,071	976	1,032	1,525	1,181	1,165
June ..	1,088	976	1,042	1,534	1,184	1,174
September ..	1,104	977	1,052	1,566	1,213	1,192
December ..	1,138	977	1,073	1,639	1,217	1,221
1948—March	1,190	978	1,105	1,661	1,231	1,248
June	1,229	979	1,129	1,720	1,248	1,278
September ..	1,274	979	1,156	1,778	1,271	1,311
December ..	1,330	980	1,190	1,818	1,277	1,341
1949—March ..	1,361	981	1,209	1,849	1,304	1,364
June ..	1,388	981	1,226	1,963	1,325	1,403
September ..	1,396	982	1,232	2,043	1,345	1,428
December ..	1,429	983	1,252	2,132	1,378	1,466
1950—March ..	1,473	984	1,279	2,156	1,402	1,491
June ..	1,520	986	1,308	2,261	1,413	1,534
September ..	1,582	987	1,346	2,316	1,432	1,572
December ..	1,689	989	1,412	2,410	1,492	1,643
1951—March ..	1,790	1,004	1,480	2,487	1,564	1,713
June ..	1,925	1,007	1,563	2,746	1,641	1,833
September ..	2,136	1,010	1,692	2,833	1,715	1,943
December ..	2,311	1,013	1,800	2,930	1,794	2,042
1952—March	2,404	1,023	1,860	2,992	1,828	2,098
June	2,567	1,041	1,966	3,099	1,949	2,206
September ..	2,592	1,070	1,992	3,115	2,018	2,238
December ..	2,542	1,094	1,971	3,177	2,035	2,243

(*a*) *See* footnote (*a*) on page 10. (*b*) *See* footnote (*b*) on page 10.

§ 5. Increases in Retail Prices since Outbreak of War in 1939.

1. **Australia.**—The following statement shows for the six State capitals and Canberra separately and for the six State capitals as a whole, the percentage increases which have taken place in retail prices of items included in the "C" Series Index from September Quarter, 1939, to December Quarter, 1952, inclusive. The proportionate increase in the total index for each capital city is shown in the line marked "Total." In the column headed "C" Series Index the total percentage rise is dissected to show what part of it was due to the rise in prices in each of the four main groups of items. Thus, of the 147.8 per cent. increase for Sydney, 66.7 was due to food and groceries, 3.7 to house rent, 55.9 to clothing and 21.5 to miscellaneous items. The column headed Group Index shows the percentage increase in prices of items in each group considered as a group. Thus, for Sydney, prices in the food and groceries group increased by 185.7 per cent., house rents by 14.3 per cent., prices of clothing by 282.2 per cent. and prices of miscellaneous

Retail Price Index-Numbers.

(FOOD, RENT, CLOTHING, MISCELLANEOUS HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURE.)

Date.	Australia.	United Kingdom.	Canada.	New Zealand.	Union of South Africa.	United States of America.
(A): 1914–1919.						
	(a)				(b)	
1914 July	100	100	100	100	100(c)	100
1915 Year	114	125	97	108	103	102
1916 ,, ...	116	148	102	115	106	109
1917 ,, ...	123	180	130	125	114	128
1918 ,, ...	132	203	146	135	118	156
1919 ,, ...	149	208	155	145	126	175
(B): 1939–1952.						
1939—					(a)	
September Quarter	100	100	100	100	100	100
1940—Year(b) ..	105	119	105	104	104	100
1941— ,, (b) ..	110	104	111	108	109	105
1942— ,, (b) ..	119	129	116	111	118	116
1943— ,, (b) ..	124	128	117	114	126	125
1944— ,, (b) ..	123	129	118	116(c)	130	123
1945— ,, (b) ..	123	131	119	118	133	127
1946— ,, (b) ..	125	131	123	118	135	138
1947— ,, (b) ..	130	102(d)	134	122	141	158
1948— ,, (b) ..	141	108	154	132	149	170
1949— ,, (b) ..	154	111	160	134(e)	154	168
1950— ,, (b) ..	170	114	165	142	160	171
1951— ,, (b) ..	206	124	183	157	172	185
1952— ,, ...	240	136	186	170	187	189
1952—March Quarter	229	133	189	167	183	187
June ,,	241	136	186	169	185	188
Sept. ,,	244	137	186	171	188	190
Dec. ,,	245	138	183	172	192	190

(a) Food, Rent and Miscellaneous Expenditure. (b) Quarterly indexes appear in preceding issues. (c) War-time Index linked to former series. (d) July–December new Series. Base: 17th June, 1947 = 100. (e) Consumers' (Retail) Price Index linked to former series.

At various stages during the first world war most of these countries introduced some measures of price control. But in the second world war they introduced price control measures at an early stage and these became more stringent as the war progressed, culminating in a policy of price stabilization.

Immediately after the outbreak of war in September, 1939, the Commonwealth Government took steps to control prices, and, by proclamation issued from day to day, pegged prices of various commodities at those ruling on 31st August, 1939. The National Security (Prices) Regulations proclaimed on 28th September, 1939, under the authority of the National Security Act, established the basic principles of war-time price control, provided for the appointment of a Commonwealth Prices Commissioner and conferred upon him extensive powers to control the price of goods declared for that purpose by the Minister for Trade and Customs. In *Official Year Book of the Commonwealth*, No. 37, pages 458–463, a brief summary of the development of this control is published, while in No. 38, page 414, reference is made to the transfer in September, 1948, of price control to the Governments of the States.

§ 6. Construction of All Items ("C" Series) Retail Price Index.

1. **The Regimen.**—The regimen from which the "C" Series Index is compiled consists of a list of commodities and services which commonly enter into the consumption of the average household and in respect of which comparative prices can be ascertained with due precision from time to time and place to place. (*See* § 2 (3) and (4), page 3 above.) The regimen is divided into the following Groups and Sections :—

Group.	Section.
I. Food and Groceries	A.—Groceries. B.—Dairy Produce. C.—Meat.
II. Housing	D.—House Rent.
III. Clothing	E.—Clothing—Man. F.—Clothing—Woman. G.—Clothing—Boy (10½ years). H.—Clothing—Girl (7 years). J.—Clothing—Boy (3½ years).
IV. Miscellaneous	K.—Household Drapery. L.—Household Utensils. M.—Fuel and Light. N.—Other Miscellaneous.

The "C" Series Index includes the whole of the foregoing Groups, but for many purposes indexes are required for individual Groups or Sections. For this reason the following indexes are regularly compiled at the intervals shown, and published in this Report and other publications issued by the Bureau :—

Group. (*a*)	Content.	Frequency.
I.	Food and Groceries	Monthly
II.	Housing (4 and 5-roomed houses) (*b*)	Quarterly
I. and II.	Food, Groceries and Housing (4 and 5-roomed houses) ("B" Series)	Quarterly
III.	Clothing	Quarterly
IV.	Miscellaneous Household Requirements	Quarterly
I., II., III. and IV.	Food, Groceries, Housing (4 and 5-roomed houses), Clothing and Miscellaneous ("C" Series)	Quarterly

For convenience of reference two of the indexes mentioned above have been given the "series" designation shown against them. These indexes are dealt with in turn in the following pages.

(*a*) "Group" or "Sectional" index-numbers in the various tables throughout this Report cannot be compared with each other in order to show the *relative cost* of Food and Groceries, Housing, Clothing or Miscellaneous requirements, since each "Group" or "Section" (or combination thereof) has its own Base = 1,000, viz., the weighted average cost for the Six Capital Cities as a whole during the five-yearly period 1923–27 for that "Group" or "Section". (*b*) *Rent.* The rent index-numbers shown in the tables in this Report measure the proportionate rise and fall in the average weekly rentals paid for houses of four and five rooms, taking corresponding houses throughout. They are "price" indexes in the strict sense, i.e., they are designed to measure only the "price" element in rent fluctuations. Similarly, "average rents" where shown are indexes of "price" changes in rentals expressed in terms of pence. They are not the average of rents actually paid by all tenants of 4 and 5-roomed houses. It would be inappropriate to include the average of rents actually paid in an index designed to measure price changes only. The average of rents actually paid is ascertained periodically by Census methods (*see also* page 2 above). Rentals of new tenanted houses completed since the end of the war are not taken into account.

The articles and services included in the various regimens now used for the purposes of the indexes referred to are shown in the following table :—

Retail Price Indexes—Regimen.

GROUP I.—FOOD AND GROCERIES.

No.	Item.	Unit.	"Weight" or Mass Unit (per capita).	Cost of Items in Regimen as percentage of aggregate cost—Melbourne, Dec. Quarter, 1951. (a)	
	SECTION A.—GROCERIES.				
1	Bread, white flour (cash delivered)	2-lb. loaf	100	3.57	
2	Flour, ordinary	2 lb.	25	0.56	
3	Flour, self-raising	2-lb. pkt.	12	0.50	
4	Tea	1-lb. pkt.	8	1.21	
5	Sugar, white granulated, 1A	1 lb.	100	2.11	
6					
7	Sago, seed tapioca	1 lb.	1	0.05	
8	Jam, plum	1½-lb. tin	8	0.55	
9	Golden Syrup	2-lb. tin	1	0.04	
10	Oats, flaked, loose	1 lb.	8	0.28	13.82
11	Raisins, seeded	1-lb. pkt.	5	0.45	
12	Currants, loose, 2-Crown	1 lb.	2	0.13	
13	Apricots, dried, loose, 2-Crown	1 lb.	1	0.15	
14	Peaches, canned	30-oz. tin	3	0.25	
15	Pears, canned	30-oz. tin	1	0.09	
16					
17	Potatoes, new and old	7 lb.	18	2.40	
18	Onions, brown	1 lb.	14	0.68	
19	Soap	1 lb.	16	0.69	
20	Kerosene, lighting, bulk	quart	4	0.11	
	SECTION B.—DAIRY PRODUCE.				
21	Butter, factory "choicest"	1 lb.	30	3.54	
22	Cheese, ordinary, mild	1 lb.	4	0.33	
23	Eggs, standard, new laid	1 doz.	6	1.00	
24	Bacon, rashers, best middle	1 lb.	12	2.33	10.66
25	Milk, condensed, sweetened	1 tin	5	0.27	
26	Milk, fresh—in sealed bottles or not bottled	quart	72	3.19	
	SECTION C.—MEAT.				
	Beef (fresh)—				
27	Sirloin (Roast) (bone in)	1 lb.	18	1.80	
28	Prime Rib (Roast) including bone	1 lb.	22	1.93	
29	Steak—Rump	1 lb.	11	1.48	
30	Steak—Chuck (stewing)	1 lb.	20	1.57	
31	Sausages	1 lb.	7	0.43	
	Beef (corned)—				
32	Silverside	1 lb.	14	1.38	
33	Brisket, rolled	1 lb.	15	1.08	
	Mutton (fresh)—				16.88
34	Leg	1 lb.	20	1.57	
35	Forequarter	1 lb.	15	0.82	
36	Loin, without flap	1 lb.	4	0.31	
37	Chops—Loin	1 lb.	30	2.42	
38	Chops—Leg	1 lb.	10	0.81	
	Pork (fresh)—				
39	Leg	1 lb.	3	0.42	
40	Loin, best end	1 lb.	3	0.43	
41	Chops	1 lb.	3	0.43	
	GROUP II.—HOUSING.—SECTION D.—RENT.				
42	House Accommodation(b)	week	52(c)	11.14	

(a) Percentages for the various sections of the remaining Groups—III. Clothing and IV. Miscellaneous—of the "C" Series Index are shown on page 16. (b) Four and five-roomed houses. (c) Per household.

Retail Price Indexes—Regimen—*continued.*

GROUP III.—CLOTHING.

No.	Item.	"Weight" or Mass Unit (per capita).
	SECTION E.—CLOTHING—MAN.	
1	Suit, ready-made, Worsted (Australian)	0.67
2	Trousers, working, Cotton Tweed (Australian)	2.00
3	Overcoat, ready-made, Tweed (Australian)	0.25
4	Hat, Fur Felt (Australian)	1.00
5	Shirt, Fashion	1.67
6	Shirt, Working, Drill	4.00
7		
8	Singlet, Wool (short sleeves)	1.00
9	Singlet, Cotton (athletic)	1.00
10	Underpants, Wool (full length)	1.00
11	Underpants, Cotton "Shorts"	1.00
12	Sox, All Wool *a* (4.65)	2.00
13		
14	Braces	1.33
15	Handkerchief, Cotton	6.00
16	Pyjamas, Winceyette	1.50
17	Pullover, All Wool	1.00
18	Shoes (for best wear), Box Calf	0.50
19	Boots, working, Box Hide	1.50
	SECTION F.—CLOTHING—WOMAN.(*b*)	
20	Costume, ready-made, Tweed (Australian)	0.50
21	Skirt, ready-made, Tweed (Australian)	1.25
22		
23	Hat, Fur Felt (Australian)	0.75
24	Hat, Straw	1.50
25	Frock, ready-made, Cotton	1.50
26	Frock, ready-made, Rayon	1.50
27	Brassiere	4.50
28	Undervest, Wool and Rayon	1.50
29	Undervest, Rayon	1.50
30		
31	Bloomers, Rayon	4.50
32	Princess Slip, Rayon	1.00
33	Stockings, Silk, Nylon	6.00
34	Stockings, Lisle	3.00
35	Gloves, Fabric	2.25
36	Gloves, Nappa	0.75
37	Nightdress, Rayon *a* (2.49)	1.50
38	Pyjamas, Winceyette	1.50
39		
40	Apron, Cotton	6.00
41	Cardigan, All Wool	0.50
42	Shoes (for best wear), Glace Kid	1.50
43	Shoes (for ordinary wear), Box Calf	1.50
	SECTION G.—CLOTHING—BOY (10½ YEARS).	
44	Suit, ready-made, Tweed (Australian)	1.00
45	Pants, ready-made, Tweed (Australian)	3.00
	SECTION G.—CLOTHING—BOY (10½ YEARS)—*contd.*	
46	Overcoat, ready-made, Tweed (Australian)	0.33
47	Cap, Skull, Cloth	1.50
48		
49	Shirt, Sports	5.00
50	Singlet, Wool (short sleeves)	1.00
51	Singlet, Cotton (athletic)	1.00
52	Braces	1.00
53	Stockings, Golf, All Wool	4.00
54	Pyjamas, Winceyette	1.50
55	Pullover, All Wool	0.50
56	Shoes, Box Yearling *a* (3.13)	1.00
57		
	SECTION H.—CLOTHING—GIRL (7 YEARS).	
58	Tunic, Wool	1.00
59		
60	Dress, Cotton	3.00
61	Top Coat, Tweed (Australian)	0.33
62	Hat, Wool Felt (Australian)	1.00
63	Hat, Straw	2.00
64		
65	Petticoat, Rayon	1.00
66	Singlet, Wool and Rayon	0.50
67	Singlet, Rayon	0.50
68	Bloomers, Cotton, fleecy-lined	2.00
69	Bloomers, Rayon	2.00
70	Sox, Anklet, Rayon and Lisle	4.00
71	Pyjamas, Winceyette	0.33
72	Pyjamas, Rayon	0.33
73	Pullover, All Wool	0.50
74	Shoes (for best wear), Patent Leather	0.67
75	Shoes (school), Box Yearling	1.50
	SECTION J.—CLOTHING—BOY (3½ YEARS).	
76	Shirt, Ranger	3.00
77	Pants, ready-made, Tweed (Australian)	3.00
78	Overcoat, ready-made, Tweed (Australian)	0.33
79	Hat, Cloth	1.33
80	Singlet, Wool	1.00
81	Singlet, Cotton (athletic)	1.00
82	Sox, Anklet, Rayon and Lisle	4.00
83	Pyjamas, Winceyette	2.00
84	Pullover, All Wool	0.50
85	Shoes (for best wear), Patent Leather	1.00
86	Shoes (for ordinary wear), Tan Yearling	2.00

(*a*) Mass unit actually applicable, and includes "weight" transferred from similar article now deleted. (*b*) The mass units were raised by 50 per cent. throughout this Section to restore its due proportionate "weight" in the Clothing Group of the Index as from September Quarter, 1936.

Retail Price Indexes—Regimen—*continued.*

GROUP IV.—MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Item.	"Weight" or Mass Unit (per household).
	SECTION K.—HOUSEHOLD DRAPERY.	
1	Blankets, D.B. (pair)	0.07
2	Blankets, S.B. (pair)	0.14
3	Quilt, D.B.	0.25
4	..	..
5	Sheets, D.B. (pair)	0.50
6	Sheets, S.B. (pair)	1.00
7	Pillow Slip, Cotton	5.00
8	Towel	3.00
9	Table Cloth	0.20
10	Tea Towel (yard)	4.00
	SECTION L.—HOUSEHOLD UTENSILS.	
11	Cup and Saucer	2.00
12	Plate, Dinner (Stone China)	2.00
13	Jug, Quart (Earthenware)	1.00
14	Teapot	0.25
15	Basin, Pudding (Enamel), 6½-inch	1.00
16	Tumbler (8-oz.)	1.00
17	Kettle, Enamel (4-pint) *a* (0.37)	0.20
18	..	..
19	Saucepan, Enamel (3-pint)	0.40
20	Bucket, Galvanized (11-inch)	0.20
21	Dipper	0.20
22	Broom, Millet	0.50
23	Broom, Hair, complete (12-inch)	0.33
24	Brush, Scrubbing (10-inch)	1.50
25	Mop, Polishing, complete	0.20
	SECTION L.—HOUSEHOLD UTENSILS—*continued.*	
26	Knife, Table (stainless)	0.10
27	Spoon, Tea	0.08
28	Spoon, Dessert	0.08
29	Fork, Table	0.10
30	Globe, Electric Light (gas-filled)	1.00
31	Iron, Electric (full size)	0.10
	SECTION M.—FUEL AND LIGHT.	
32	Firewood (blocks) (cwt.) (*b*)	40
33	Gas, cooking (units) (*b*)	1,518
34	Electric lighting (units)	130
35	Electric power (units) (*b*)	130

No.	Item.	Amount per week (per household).
	SECTION N.—OTHER MISCELLANEOUS.	
36	Union Dues	(*c*)
37	Lodge Dues	(*c*)
38	Medicine	(*c*)
39	Newspapers	(*c*)
40	Recreation	(*c*)
41	Smoking	(*c*)
42	Fares	(*c*)
43	School requisites	(*c*)

(*a*) Mass unit actually applicable, and includes "weight" transferred from similar article now deleted.

(*b*) Standard mass units. In certain provincial towns where gas and/or electricity are not used the mass units differ from the standard.

(*c*) A basic amount per week is varied quarterly (where necessary) in accordance with changes shown by an index of variation.

2. **The Mass Units (or "Weights") and Method of Tabulation.**—(i) The "mass units" (or "weights") are multipliers representing the approximate average annual consumption *per head or per household* under normal conditions. The index-numbers are computed on a "total annual aggregative expenditure" basis, i.e., the total annual expenditure from time to time by a *standard population* in respect of the selected regimen of commodities and services commonly entering into household consumption, and of a constant *standard quality*. As a first step, therefore, it is necessary to multiply the price of each item by its "weight" per head or per household as the case may be. Thus, the "weight" of bread is 100 2-lb. loaves per head; of sugar 100 lb. per head; of towels 3 per household; and of housing 52 rent-weeks per household. The result of this initial calculation is designated the "P.MU" aggregate (i.e., Price x Mass Unit).

The sum of the above "P.MU" results for each Section or Group is then multiplied by its appropriate population or household "weight" to produce the respective annual aggregate expenditures. Thus, Sections A to C (Food and Groceries) would be multiplied by the total population; Section D (Housing) by the total number of households; Sections E to J (Clothing) by the proportion of the total population applicable to each; and Sections K to N (Miscellaneous) by the total number of households.

The combination of the aggregates from the last paragraph gives the "total annual aggregate expenditure" for the whole regimen, from which the "C" Series index-number is derived by applying to 1,000 the ratio which the aggregate for any period bears to the aggregate for the base period of the index. In the process of tabulation all prices are converted to pence for these final aggregates.

For tabulating purposes some of these "mass units" are varied when necessary to make up a deficiency or cancel out an excess in the aggregate resulting from a *change in the standard* of any item upon which prices are collected, to ensure that such changes shall not be wrongly recorded by the index as *variations* in prices. The "mass units" published above, however, still continue to show the correct *relative* consumption "weights" actually applicable to the commodities and services in the regimen for the *constant standards* used in the index. *See also* § 2 (3) and § 6 (3) of this chapter.

(ii) The five sections into which the clothing group is divided are somewhat arbitrary, but they follow those adopted by the Royal Commission on the Basic Wage (*see* page 106). The sections for men and women are now regarded as being applicable to persons aged seventeen years and upwards. The section for a boy aged ten and a half years is taken as representative of both sexes from ten to sixteen years; the section for a girl aged seven as representative of both sexes from five to nine years; and the section for a boy aged three and a half years is taken as representative of children aged four years and under.

(iii) In estimating the annual average consumption per head of food and groceries for household purposes, small adjustments in the crude average consumption were made in two ways. Consumption by factories, when the product did not go into household use in Australia, was deducted. On the other hand, the "weights" given to some foods, such as dried apricots and canned peaches, cover also the consumption of other similar foods. The "weights" of individual food items were not adjusted to take account of war-time scarcities and rationing.

(iv) Some foods of some importance, such as fresh fish, and fresh fruit and vegetables other than potatoes and onions, are not included in the regimen because comparable prices for a standard grade cannot be obtained from time to time or place to place and because of marked seasonal

fluctuations in supplies and consumption. The inclusion of such items, therefore, would impair the accuracy of the index. In the original regimen certain omissions were made partly on account of the difficulty of securing comparable prices. Some cuts of meat, for example, are excluded because they are not uniformly standardized. Mutton is included and not lamb because the latter, in many places, is available only seasonally. However, the appropriate total weight for meat is distributed amongst the cuts included in the regimen. Proprietary lines of breakfast foods are excluded because they are not universally available.

(v) In the case of Food and Groceries (Group I.) the " weights " adopted are, approximately, the annual average consumption per head for household purposes of the various articles during the years 1927 to 1929. The " weights " allotted to items in Clothing (Group III.) and Household Drapery (Section K of Group IV.) are based largely on the results of the inquiries of the Royal Commission on the Basic Wage, which reported in 1920 and 1921. After exhaustive inquiries the Commission published a " regimen " for an average working family of five persons, and set out the constituent items in its " Indicator List ". This list, so far as it related to the articles in question, was followed substantially in the original compilation of the " C " Series Index and has been adjusted by subsequent investigations of the Bureau to accord with changes in popular usage. The " mass units " used for fuel and light are based, indirectly, on the findings of the Commission. Until September Quarter, 1936, fixed amounts were used for the miscellaneous items of Section N, but since the date mentioned, provision has been made to vary certain of these amounts periodically, in accordance with ascertained changes.

(vi) The " weights " allotted to the items were not adjusted to take account of war-time shortages or rationing, and the index therefore measured war-time price changes in relation to a normal (or pre-war) apportionment of household expenditure. (*See* § 2 (5) and § 9 (5) of this chapter.)

3. **Relative " Aggregate Expenditure " of Items and Groups.**—In the *base period* of the index (the years 1923 to 1927) the relative importance of each of the four main groups, expressed as a percentage of the weighted average " aggregate expenditure " in the Six Capital Cities (from which all relative index-numbers are derived) was as shown in the third column of the following table. Although the " weights " of each item in the regimen are kept virtually constant, the relative " aggregate expenditure " of the various items and groups varies from time to time as relative prices change.

The percentage distribution for Melbourne in the *base period* was practically identical with that of the Six Capital Cities as a whole, and has continued to be representative of the relative movement of prices in the capital cities up to the present time. For this and other reasons, therefore, the percentage distribution of the Melbourne " aggregate expenditures "

has been published in previous issues of this Report, and these figures for December quarter, 1951, are shown in the last column of the table for comparison with those of the *base period*.

Group.	Section.	Proportion of Aggregate Expenditure.	
		1923–27. (Base). Six Capital Cities.	Dec. Qtr., 1951. Melbourne.
		%	%
I. Food and Groceries	A Groceries	17.44	13.82
	B Dairy Produce	10.28	10.66
	C Meat	10.94	16.88
		38.66	41.36
II. Housing	D House Rent—(4 and 5-roomed houses)	21.26	11.14
		21.26	11.14
III. Clothing	E Man	8.69	12.29
	F Woman	9.12	14.00
	G Boy, 10½ years	2.89	2.35
	H Girl, 7 years	1.36	1.71
	J Boy, 3½ years	0.98	0.85
		23.04	31.20
IV. Miscellaneous	K Household Drapery	1.09	2.31
	L Household Utensils	0.49	0.68
	M Fuel and Light	4.92	4.57
	N Other Miscellaneous	10.54	8.74
		17.04	16.30
		100.00	100.00

4. Base Periods of the Indexes.—The base period originally adopted by the Bureau for its retail price indexes was the year 1911. When the collection of the prices of clothing and miscellaneous items was undertaken for the purposes of the "C" Series Index, the month of November, 1914, was adopted as the base period for this series. The desirability of computing retail price indexes to a new base was considered by a Conference of Statisticians in 1929, and it was resolved that from 1st January, 1930, the five years 1923–27 should be adopted as the base period. Commencing with Labour Report No. 21 for 1930, therefore, the retail price indexes have been published on this base. The aggregate to which all index-numbers are related is the weighted "aggregate expenditure" of the regimen in the six capital cities during the period taken as base expressed as an index-number of 1,000.

Conferences of statisticians in 1949 and 1950 left consideration of the adoption of a new base period to be made in conjunction with the next general review of the index. In the *Monthly Review of Business Statistics* the index is recomputed with the three years ended June, 1939, as base.

Indexes on the earlier bases mentioned will be found in previous issues of the Labour Report, as follows:—

(i) 1911 *Base.*—Food and groceries; rent of all houses; and food, groceries and rent of all houses ("A" Series Index)—Labour Reports Nos. 1 to 15.* Food and groceries; rent of 4 and 5-roomed houses; and food, groceries and rent of 4 and 5-roomed houses ("B" Series Index)—Labour Reports Nos. 16 to 20.

(ii) 1914 *Base.*—Food and groceries; rent of all houses; clothing; miscellaneous; all items of household expenditure (subsequently retrospectively revised to include rents of 4 and 5-roomed houses only)—

* These index-numbers appear in the Appendix to each Labour Report Nos. 16 to 28 and also in the *Quarterly Summary of Australian Statistics* up to No 155, June, 1938.

Labour Reports Nos. 12 to 16. Food and groceries; rent of 4 and 5-roomed houses; clothing; miscellaneous; all items of household expenditure ("C" Series Index)—Labour Reports Nos. 17 to 20.

The conversion of these indexes from one base to another may be readily effected by multiplying the index-number to be converted by the appropriate factor shown in the following table :—

Group.	1911 to 1914 (a).	1914 (a) to 1911.	1911 to 1923–27.	1923–27 to 1911.	1914 (a) to 1923–27.	1923–27 to 1914 (a).
Food and Groceries ..	0.87230	1.14639	0.55929	1.78800	0.64116	1.55970
Housing (4 and 5-roomed houses)	0.94279	1.06068	0.61161	1.63500	0.64872	1.54150
Food, Groceries and Rent ("B" Series)	0.89750	1.11420	0.57785	1.73060	0.64384	1.55320
Clothing	..	..	..	..	0.75412	1.32610
Miscellaneous ..	..	..	..	..	0.74891	1.33530
All Items ("C" Series)	..	..	..	..	0.68715	1.45530

(a) November.

The results obtained by the method above will, of course, be only approximate, but the error will not be greater than one point in the unit figure.

5. **Relative Population Weights for Towns.**—Weighted averages for any combination of towns or States may be calculated approximately by multiplying the index-numbers* of the towns or States to be included by their population weights, and dividing the sum of the products by the sum of the multipliers. The population weights used in the computations of these weighted averages for 1934 and succeeding years are as follows :—

Relative Population Weights Used for Different Towns.

New South Wales.		Victoria.		Queensland.		South Australia.		Western Australia.		Tasmania.	
Town.	Weight.	Town.	Weight.	Town.	Weight.	Town.	Weight.	Town.	Weight.	Town.	Weight.
Sydney ..	1235	Melbourne	992	Brisbane	300	Adelaide	313	Perth, etc.	208	Hobart	60
Newcastle	105	Ballarat ..	38	T'woomba	26	Kadina,etc.	11	Kalg'lie,etc	17	Launceston	33
Broken Hill	27	Bendigo ..	29	Rockham'n	29	Pt. Pirie	12	Northam	5	Burnie ..	4
Goulburn	15	Geelong ..	39	†Townsville	26	Mt. Gamb'r	5	Bunbury	5	Devonport	5
Bathurst	10	W'nambool	9	†Bundaberg	11	Peterbor'gh	3	Geraldton	5	Queenst'wn	4
Total ..	1392	Total ..	1107	†Total ..	392	Total ..	344	Total ..	240	Total ..	106

† Townsville and Bundaberg were substituted for Charters Towers (7) and Warwick (7) in the "five towns" tabulation in March Quarter, 1937.

The weights used are based on the 1933 Census results, and represent to the nearest 1,000 the actual population at that date.

These weights produce results which differ only very slightly from those obtained from the weights previously in use. The latter were based upon the 1921 Census results, and were last published in Labour Report, No. 23.

* The official index-numbers are calculated by operating on the "aggregates" of the towns concerned, a procedure which may produce slightly different results from the above.

§ 7. Tabular Statements of Retail Price Index-Numbers.

1. **General.**—The results of inquiries into price movements are available as follows :—

(i) *Monthly.*—The *Monthly Review of Business Statistics* contains annual, quarterly and monthly index-numbers to the latest available date.

(ii) *Quarterly.*—A statement is issued about three weeks after the end of each quarter giving the "C" Series index-numbers for that quarter and immediately preceding quarters in respect of each of the 30 cities and towns originally adopted and for certain other towns, e.g., Canberra, for which "C" Series index-numbers are now compiled. The *Quarterly Summary of Australian Statistics* contains annual, quarterly and monthly index-numbers to the latest available date. This publication also contains the average prices of the items of food and groceries, for each month of the last available quarter, in the 30 towns covered by the investigation. Particulars of movements in certain average rents of 4 and 5-roomed houses in these towns are also shown therein.

(iii) *Annual.*—The Labour Report contains index-numbers over a number of past years, and the monthly and quarterly results for at least the last available year. The average prices for the last year of the items of food and groceries, and house rents, are also published in this Report. The *Official Year Book* also contains information similar to, but in less detail than that published herein.

2. **All Items ("C" Series) Retail Price Index.**—On pages 6–7 above is published a table of weighted averages for the six capital cities combined, of "C" Series index-numbers, together with index-numbers for the four main groups of items in the "C" Series Index for each year 1914–1952.

In the pages immediately following are published :—

(i) the "C" Series index-number for the last quarter of each of the years 1939 and 1946 to 1951 (page 19) and for the month of November of each of the years 1914 to 1920 (page 20), for each capital city and for the six capital cities combined, and showing also separate indexes for each of the four groups of items ;

(ii) the "C" Series index-numbers for November, 1914, 1921 and 1922, the years 1923 to 1951, the September Quarter, 1939, and each quarter during the period March Quarter, 1945, to December Quarter, 1951, for each of the 30 towns, with the weighted averages of the 5 towns in each State, 30 towns and the six capital cities (pages 21–23) ;

(iii) the "C" Series index-numbers for the years 1939 and 1941 to 1951 and the twelve quarters ended 31st December, 1951, for four additional towns not included in the weighted averages in (ii) above, and showing also separate indexes for each of the four groups of items (page 24) ;

(iv) "Group" index-numbers for each of the four groups of items in the "C" Series Index for places mentioned in (ii) above for November, 1914 and 1921, the years 1939 and 1944 to 1951 and the four quarters ended 31st December, 1951 (pages 25–27).

All Items ("C" Series) Retail Price Index-Numbers(*a*) : Capital Cities.

(Base of each Group: Weighted Average of Six Capital Cities, 1923-27=1,000.)

Period.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.	Six Capitals. (*b*)
GROUP I.—FOOD AND GROCERIES.							
Dec. Qtr. 1939 ..	940	942	859	888	926	941	927
,, ,, 1946 ..	1,047	1,044	996	996	1,052	1,084	1,037
,, ,, 1947 ..	1,138	1,160	1,092	1,112	1,132	1,180	1,138
,, ,, 1948 ..	1,326	1,355	1,280	1,305	1,324	1,416	1,330
,, ,, 1949 ..	1,421	1,451	1,367	1,398	1,488	1,514	1,429
,, ,, 1950 ..	1,713	1,724	1,551	1,606	1,707	1,665	1,689
,, ,, 1951 ..	2,401	2,334	2,145	2,175	2,134	2,252	2,311
GROUP II.—HOUSING (4 AND 5-ROOMED HOUSES).(*c*)							
Dec. Qtr. 1939 ..	1,040	960	855	891	882	930	969
,, ,, 1946 ..	1,043	973	863	895	886	936	976
,, ,, 1947 ..	1,045	974	864	899	887	936	977
,, ,, 1948 ..	1,047	974	866	905	890	938	980
,, ,, 1949 ..	1,049	977	873	914	897	941	983
,, ,, 1950 ..	1,050	979	898	937	904	941	989
,, ,, 1951 ..	1,056	980	947	960	1,073	1,057	1,013
GROUPS I. AND II.—FOOD, GROCERIES AND HOUSING ("B" SERIES INDEX).							
Dec. Qtr. 1939 ..	977	947	855	887	907	935	941
,, ,, 1946 ..	1,043	1,014	942	955	985	1,024	1,011
,, ,, 1947 ..	1,099	1,084	1,001	1,026	1,034	1,082	1,073
,, ,, 1948 ..	1,214	1,203	1,116	1,146	1,152	1,226	1,190
,, ,, 1949 ..	1,273	1,263	1,171	1,206	1,254	1,287	1,252
,, ,, 1950 ..	1,451	1,429	1,293	1,341	1,390	1,379	1,412
,, ,, 1951 ..	1,871	1,801	1,673	1,696	1,715	1,781	1,800
GROUP III.—CLOTHING.							
Dec. Qtr. 1939 ..	854	862	865	869	840	867	858
,, ,, 1946 ..	1,555	1,551	1,552	1,529	1,548	1,558	1,550
,, ,, 1947 ..	1,639	1,649	1,619	1,618	1,647	1,653	1,639
,, ,, 1948 ..	1,831	1,801	1,817	1,809	1,835	1,807	1,818
,, ,, 1949 ..	2,161	2,117	2,072	2,113	2,155	2,129	2,132
,, ,, 1950 ..	2,447	2,389	2,355	2,390	2,408	2,401	2,410
,, ,, 1951 ..	2,964	2,886	2,864	2,962	2,977	2,942	2,930
GROUP IV.—MISCELLANEOUS.							
Dec. Qtr. 1939 ..	943	983	960	1,027	957	945	967
,, ,, 1946 ..	1,175	1,165	1,141	1,222	1,147	1,110	1,170
,, ,, 1947 ..	1,245	1,201	1,157	1,266	1,160	1,140	1,217
,, ,, 1948 ..	1,279	1,273	1,249	1,350	1,242	1,191	1,277
,, ,, 1949 ..	1,389	1,397	1,316	1,410	1,305	1,234	1,378
,, ,, 1950 ..	1,527	1,482	1,418	1,555	1,374	1,383	1,492
,, ,, 1951 ..	1,836	1,789	1,694	1,802	1,720	1,744	1,794
GROUPS I. TO IV.—ALL ITEMS ("C" SERIES) INDEX.							
Dec. Qtr. 1939 ..	943	932	874	906	899	919	926
,, ,, 1946 ..	1,177	1,157	1,110	1,128	1,136	1,155	1,156
,, ,, 1947 ..	1,242	1,227	1,163	1,198	1,189	1,216	1,221
,, ,, 1948 ..	1,359	1,345	1,291	1,327	1,316	1,344	1,341
,, ,, 1949 ..	1,486	1,472	1,393	1,440	1,459	1,459	1,466
,, ,, 1950 ..	1,680	1,646	1,546	1,608	1,607	1,601	1,643
,, ,, 1951 ..	2,100	2,033	1,934	1,990	1,989	2,024	2,042

(*a*) *See* footnote (*a*) on page 10. (*b*) Weighted average. (*c*) *See* footnote (*b*) on page 10.

All Items ("C" Series) Retail Price Index-Numbers(*a*) : Capital Cities.

(Base of each Group : Weighted Average of Six Capital Cities, 1923–27 = 1,000.)

Period.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.	Six Capitals. (Weighted Average).
GROUP I.—FOOD AND GROCERIES.							
Nov. 1914 ..	638	616	614	683	746	687	641
,, 1915 ..	844	835	860	858	819	858	842
,, 1916 ..	833	791	748	835	854	807	812
,, 1917 ..	877	798	825	805	828	949	836
,, 1918 ..	877	843	882	862	816	918	861
,, 1919 ..	1,073	975	1,069	1,012	987	1,041	1,026
,, 1920 ..	1,225	1,220	1,117	1,225	1,113	1,293	1,209
GROUP II.—HOUSING (4 AND 5-ROOMED HOUSES).(*b*)							
Nov. 1914 ..	758	608	463	611	586	525	649
,, 1915 ..	780	611	472	574	581	571	659
,, 1916 ..	791	625	467	573	592	574	665
,, 1917 ..	797	657	492	606	602	586	685
,, 1918 ..	832	699	526	656	619	614	722
,, 1919 ..	866	744	604	707	650	746	768
,, 1920 ..	980	807	634	783	718	904	851
GROUPS I. AND II.—FOOD, GROCERIES AND HOUSING ("B" SERIES INDEX).							
Nov. 1914 ..	680	613	560	658	689	630	644
,, 1915 ..	825	756	722	758	734	756	777
,, 1916 ..	818	732	648	742	761	724	760
,, 1917 ..	848	748	707	734	748	820	782
,, 1918 ..	861	792	756	789	746	810	812
,, 1919 ..	1,000	893	904	904	867	936	934
,, 1920 ..	1,138	1,074	945	1,068	973	1,155	1,082
GROUP III.—CLOTHING.							
Nov. 1914 ..	755	780	657	756	698	825	754
,, 1915 ..	805	797	690	821	760	833	792
,, 1916 ..	903	870	779	919	849	940	881
,, 1917 ..	1,009	976	899	1,049	980	1,041	992
,, 1918 ..	1,102	1,103	1,025	1,066	1,135	1,200	1,097
,, 1919 ..	1,237	1,213	1,192	1,303	1,277	1,344	1,238
,, 1920 ..	1,323	1,422	1,274	1,384	1,359	1,430	1,365
GROUP IV.—MISCELLANEOUS.							
Nov. 1914 ..	766	728	728	770	780	699	749
,, 1915 ..	798	770	756	803	822	770	786
,, 1916 ..	808	784	766	832	869	780	802
,, 1917 ..	889	879	836	883	926	865	882
,, 1918 ..	988	950	931	988	1,035	945	972
,, 1919 ..	1,059	1,016	968	1,035	1,120	1,006	1,036
,, 1920 ..	1,209	1,181	1,139	1,200	1,262	1,124	1,194
GROUPS I. TO IV.—ALL ITEMS ("C" SERIES) INDEX.							
							(*c*)
Nov. 1914 ..	712	671	611	699	707	687	687
,, 1915 ..	816	768	721	780	755	776	782
,, 1916 ..	836	773	698	798	800	783	795
,, 1917 ..	892	823	773	832	832	879	847
,, 1918 ..	938	890	848	887	885	923	905
,, 1919 ..	1,065	988	981	1,018	1,005	1,042	1,022
,, 1920 ..	1,193	1,172	1,054	1,164	1,111	1,213	1,166

(*a*) *See* footnote (*a*) on page 10. (*b*) *See* footnote (*b*) on page 10. (*c*) *See* pages 21–23 for corresponding figures for years 1921 to 1951.

All Items ("C" Series) Retail Price Index-Numbers: Thirty Towns.

(Base: Weighted Average of Six Capital Cities, 1923-27 = 1,000.)

Period.	NEW SOUTH WALES.						VICTORIA.					
	Sydney.	Newcastle.	Broken Hill.	Goulburn.	Bathurst.	Weighted Average, 5 Towns.	Melbourne.	Ballarat.	Bendigo.	Geelong.	Warrnambool.	Weighted Average, 5 Towns.
Nov. 1914 (a)	712	..	..	..	..	..	671	..	..	..	..	..
,, 1921 ..	1,046	1,041	975	1,033	947	1,042	1,003	992	1,002	1,019	1,034	1,003
,, 1922 ..	1,021	967	933	983	893	1,011	963	936	935	982	914	960
Year 1923 ..	1,023	992	958	1,024	924	1,018	1,004	924	937	966	956	996
,, 1924 ..	1,002	967	930	1,039	917	997	976	896	901	933	960	968
,, 1925 ..	1,016	986	972	1,029	935	1,012	984	914	913	950	942	977
,, 1926 ..	1,033	1,010	988	1,050	978	1,030	998	931	933	984	946	992
,, 1927 ..	1,029	1,015	1,000	1,062	952	1,027	990	922	940	985	945	985
,, 1928 ..	1,042	1,014	997	1,074	964	1,038	992	929	936	973	941	987
,, 1929 ..	1,073	1,028	1,018	1,108	979	1,067	1,017	957	969	980	960	1,011
,, 1930 ..	1,026	991	973	1,039	959	1,022	956	909	926	917	939	951
,, 1931 ..	922	888	882	922	867	918	846	808	833	822	860	843
,, 1932 ..	867	840	834	877	820	863	813	776	808	794	838	811
,, 1933 ..	832	819	806	843	801	830	789	760	789	772	812	787
,, 1934 ..	842	834	819	852	807	841	801	781	811	782	826	801
,, 1935 ..	852	856	819	860	814	852	824	803	820	824	850	824
,, 1936 ..	866	853	848	864	833	865	844	826	821	848	851	843
,, 1937 ..	889	849	893	867	842	886	868	839	840	855	856	866
,, 1938 ..	913	877	940	893	860	911	896	850	854	884	892	893
,, 1939 ..	936	901	955	916	883	933	924	874	875	911	918	920
,, 1940 ..	974	945	981	949	923	972	964	906	920	941	954	960
,, 1941 ..	1,028	997	1,049	1,005	974	1,026	1,008	950	963	984	998	1,004
,, 1942 ..	1,107	1,069	1,132	1,087	1,050	1,104	1,100	1,037	1,054	1,065	1,078	1,095
,, 1943 ..	1,151	1,109	1,172	1,125	1,091	1,147	1,139	1,084	1,096	1,110	1,126	1,135
,, 1944 ..	1,144	1,094	1,179	1,118	1,088	1,140	1,135	1,083	1,101	1,112	1,129	1,131
,, 1945 ..	1,142	1,100	1,192	1,114	1,091	1,139	1,135	1,086	1,099	1,113	1,139	1,131
,, 1946 ..	1,165	1,119	1,216	1,134	1,116	1,162	1,149	1,094	1,107	1,124	1,153	1,145
,, 1947 ..	1,212	1,167	1,257	1,177	1,162	1,208	1,188	1,132	1,141	1,170	1,186	1,184
,, 1948 ..	1,318	1,279	1,376	1,291	1,277	1,315	1,294	1,243	1,244	1,278	1,283	1,290
,, 1949 ..	1,439	1,402	1,528	1,426	1,403	1,437	1,415	1,365	1,365	1,397	1,398	1,411
,, 1950 ..	1,593	1,543	1,692	1,578	1,552	1,591	1,565	1,509	1,520	1,549	1,558	1,561
,, 1951 ..	1,933	1,901	1,997	1,921	1,882	1,931	1,880	1,857	1,826	1,871	1,886	1,877
1939 Sept. Qtr.	933	897	943	914	881	930	918	875	868	909	918	915
1945 Mar. Qtr.	1,138	1,093	1,184	1,110	1,086	1,135	1,132	1,086	1,099	1,114	1,135	1,129
,, June ,,	1,141	1,099	1,193	1,111	1,089	1,138	1,134	1,086	1,098	1,112	1,135	1,131
,, Sept. ,,	1,142	1,103	1,194	1,112	1,090	1,139	1,135	1,085	1,099	1,114	1,139	1,132
,, Dec. ,,	1,147	1,106	1,198	1,121	1,099	1,145	1,137	1,085	1,099	1,112	1,145	1,133
1946 Mar. Qtr.	1,151	1,108	1,203	1,123	1,105	1,148	1,141	1,089	1,101	1,117	1,146	1,137
,, June ,,	1,165	1,117	1,218	1,133	1,116	1,161	1,150	1,094	1,105	1,126	1,154	1,146
,, Sept. ,,	1,167	1,119	1,218	1,134	1,120	1,163	1,149	1,095	1,107	1,121	1,152	1,145
,, Dec. ,,	1,177	1,131	1,223	1,145	1,122	1,174	1,157	1,096	1,114	1,132	1,159	1,153
1947 Mar. Qtr.	1,192	1,149	1,234	1,155	1,137	1,189	1,159	1,104	1,118	1,144	1,164	1,156
,, June ,,	1,194	1,150	1,237	1,160	1,147	1,191	1,175	1,123	1,130	1,161	1,175	1,171
,, Sept. ,,	1,218	1,169	1,258	1,183	1,169	1,214	1,189	1,132	1,139	1,170	1,185	1,185
,, Dec. ,,	1,242	1,199	1,298	1,211	1,196	1,239	1,227	1,170	1,177	1,203	1,219	1,223
1948 Mar. Qtr.	1,270	1,233	1,324	1,243	1,229	1,267	1,249	1,199	1,206	1,233	1,240	1,246
,, June ,,	1,305	1,263	1,364	1,271	1,263	1,302	1,272	1,222	1,222	1,256	1,266	1,268
,, Sept. ,,	1,337	1,296	1,396	1,309	1,298	1,334	1,309	1,256	1,256	1,296	1,297	1,305
,, Dec. ,,	1,359	1,324	1,419	1,341	1,318	1,357	1,345	1,294	1,290	1,325	1,329	1,341
1949 Mar. Qtr.	1,391	1,352	1,461	1,380	1,358	1,389	1,363	1,315	1,314	1,344	1,349	1,359
,, June ,,	1,425	1,393	1,504	1,421	1,393	1,424	1,402	1,355	1,355	1,385	1,387	1,390
,, Sept. ,,	1,452	1,413	1,554	1,434	1,411	1,451	1,422	1,369	1,366	1,401	1,404	1,417
,, Dec. ,,	1,486	1,449	1,593	1,467	1,448	1,485	1,472	1,420	1,424	1,457	1,451	1,468
1950 Mar. Qtr.	1,515	1,473	1,614	1,495	1,475	1,513	1,501	1,456	1,462	1,493	1,483	1,498
,, June ,,	1,564	1,519	1,646	1,535	1,522	1,562	1,542	1,480	1,495	1,523	1,531	1,538
,, Sept. ,,	1,613	1,552	1,717	1,597	1,570	1,610	1,569	1,513	1,529	1,559	1,571	1,566
,, Dec. ,,	1,680	1,628	1,790	1,664	1,641	1,678	1,646	1,588	1,592	1,619	1,648	1,642
1951 Mar. Qtr.	1,749	1,724	1,834	1,739	1,707	1,748	1,718	1,665	1,662	1,702	1,717	1,714
,, June ,,	1,875	1,853	1,939	1,858	1,825	1,874	1,839	1,825	1,771	1,845	1,823	1,837
,, Sept. ,,	2,007	1,957	2,031	1,991	1,954	2,003	1,930	1,918	1,884	1,924	1,957	1,928
,, Dec. ,,	2,100	2,071	2,182	2,096	2,040	2,099	2,033	2,019	1,987	2,014	2,048	2,030

(a) For index-numbers for Capital Cities, November, 1914 to 1920, *see* page 20.

All Items ("C" Series) Retail Price Index-Numbers : Thirty Towns—*continued.*

(*Base : Weighted Average of Six Capital Cities,* 1923–27 = 1,000.)

Period.	QUEENSLAND.						SOUTH AUSTRALIA.					
	Brisbane.	Toowoomba.	Rock-hampton.	Townsville.	Bundaberg.	Weighted Average, 5 Towns.	Adelaide.	Kadina, Moonta, and Wallaroo.	Port Pirie.	Mt. Gambier.	Peter-borough.	Weighted Average, 5 Towns.
Nov. 1914 (*a*)	611	..	..	..	..	..	699	..	..	..	..	..
,, 1921 ..	923	949	972	1,025*b*	994*c*	941	989	998	1,025	1,029	948	992
,, 1922 ..	877	841	883	865*b*	891*c*	873	954	903	922	906	868	947
Year 1923 ..	923	899	884	910*b*	910*c*	917	1,008	952	936	930	934	1,001
,, 1924 ..	915	890	872	903*b*	896*c*	909	1,015	929	943	914	969	1,007
,, 1925 ..	923	919	907	896*b*	903*c*	920	1,028	930	969	937	1,013	1,021
,, 1926 ..	950	945	947	925*b*	951*c*	949	1,026	935	988	956	1,016	1,020
,, 1927 ..	922	914	929	918*b*	946*c*	923	1,018	932	970	945	1,023	1,012
,, 1928 ..	917	906	903	925*b*	914*c*	915	1,027	927	960	948	1,017	1,019
,, 1929 ..	923	916	904	939*b*	931*c*	922	1,037	943	980	963	1,043	1,030
,, 1930 ..	859	885	868	883*b*	882*c*	863	952	885	927	918	980	948
,, 1931 ..	798	816	806	827*b*	815*c*	801	837	801	834	831	884	836
,, 1932 ..	764	788	779	794*b*	777*c*	768	802	772	791	816	848	801
,, 1933 ..	751	778	752	762*b*	757*c*	753	789	747	762	800	832	787
,, 1934 ..	762	785	759	759*b*	761*c*	764	806	758	778	800	832	804
,, 1935 ..	780	785	776	789*b*	769*c*	780	820	763	789	809	833	817
,, 1936 ..	804	802	802	810*b*	779*c*	803	839	765	813	818	843	835
,, 1937 ..	837	840	840	883	809	840	859	769	844	830	851	855
,, 1938 ..	852	843	853	902	831	854	888	786	868	849	868	883
,, 1939 ..	870	858	867	918	847	871	906	810	896	872	897	902
,, 1940 ..	908	898	905	950	879	909	936	833	919	894	924	931
,, 1941 ..	963	951	959	1,004	938	964	988	882	976	946	974	983
,, 1942 ..	1,033	1,033	1,032	1,075	1,015	1,035	1,075	962	1,057	1,024	1,053	1,069
,, 1943 ..	1,072	1,080	1,073	1,114	1,057	1,075	1,102	998	1,087	1,061	1,087	1,097
,, 1944 ..	1,071	1,085	1,074	1,117	1,057	1,075	1,098	995	1,081	1,064	1,087	1,093
,, 1945 ..	1,072	1,087	1,079	1,114	1,054	1,075	1,102	999	1,085	1,070	1,093	1,098
,, 1946 ..	1,093	1,107	1,096	1,136	1,074	1,097	1,120	1,020	1,106	1,093	1,108	1,116
,, 1947 ..	1,137	1,152	1,140	1,181	1,115	1,140	1,165	1,067	1,152	1,134	1,152	1,160
,, 1948 ..	1,241	1,246	1,241	1,282	1,221	1,244	1,277	1,166	1,260	1,235	1,253	1,272
,, 1949 ..	1,348	1,360	1,357	1,404	1,335	1,352	1,393	1,295	1,369	1,340	1,368	1,388
,, 1950 ..	1,472	1,486	1,491	1,525	1,464	1,478	1,521	1,423	1,500	1,499	1,496	1,516
,, 1951 ..	1,760	1,773	1,785	1,818	1,754	1,767	1,833	1,742	1,811	1,863	1,808	1,829
1939 Sept. Qtr.	866	853	861	912	843	867	903	812	897	866	896	899
1945 Mar. Qtr.	1,071	1,086	1,077	1,117	1,056	1,075	1,098	993	1,080	1,067	1,089	1,094
,, June ,,	1,072	1,088	1,083	1,115	1,053	1,076	1,100	996	1,084	1,068	1,090	1,096
,, Sept. ,,	1,069	1,085	1,077	1,109	1,049	1,073	1,103	1,003	1,086	1,073	1,096	1,099
,, Dec. ,,	1,074	1,088	1,080	1,114	1,056	1,077	1,106	1,005	1,090	1,073	1,097	1,102
1946 Mar. Qtr.	1,081	1,095	1,086	1,123	1,061	1,084	1,110	1,009	1,092	1,079	1,098	1,106
,, June ,,	1,090	1,101	1,092	1,129	1,070	1,093	1,121	1,017	1,110	1,095	1,109	1,116
,, Sept. ,,	1,092	1,106	1,093	1,135	1,073	1,095	1,121	1,023	1,107	1,095	1,108	1,117
,, Dec. ,,	1,110	1,125	1,111	1,156	1,090	1,114	1,128	1,031	1,115	1,103	1,118	1,124
1947 Mar. Qtr.	1,123	1,139	1,126	1,172	1,107	1,127	1,137	1,041	1,125	1,113	1,124	1,133
,, June ,,	1,125	1,141	1,129	1,169	1,108	1,129	1,154	1,061	1,142	1,121	1,143	1,150
,, Sept. ,,	1,136	1,153	1,142	1,181	1,111	1,140	1,169	1,072	1,156	1,137	1,159	1,165
,, Dec. ,,	1,163	1,175	1,163	1,201	1,132	1,165	1,198	1,095	1,185	1,163	1,181	1,193
1948 Mar. Qtr.	1,193	1,199	1,191	1,230	1,165	1,195	1,226	1,124	1,215	1,197	1,213	1,222
,, June ,,	1,227	1,232	1,225	1,263	1,203	1,229	1,262	1,150	1,244	1,223	1,238	1,257
,, Sept. ,,	1,251	1,260	1,259	1,300	1,241	1,256	1,293	1,181	1,273	1,250	1,266	1,288
,, Dec. ,,	1,291	1,292	1,290	1,335	1,276	1,294	1,327	1,207	1,308	1,271	1,295	1,321
1949 Mar. Qtr.	1,295	1,304	1,307	1,356	1,287	1,300	1,347	1,241	1,322	1,291	1,317	1,342
,, June ,,	1,338	1,349	1,349	1,397	1,327	1,343	1,377	1,290	1,356	1,331	1,352	1,372
,, Sept. ,,	1,364	1,377	1,373	1,418	1,352	1,368	1,408	1,309	1,381	1,354	1,382	1,402
,, Dec. ,,	1,393	1,408	1,399	1,444	1,374	1,397	1,440	1,340	1,416	1,382	1,419	1,435
1950 Mar. Qtr.	1,414	1,429	1,428	1,469	1,401	1,419	1,456	1,359	1,433	1,405	1,435	1,451
,, June ,,	1,446	1,455	1,461	1,506	1,437	1,451	1,492	1,397	1,468	1,452	1,475	1,487
,, Sept. ,,	1,482	1,496	1,497	1,528	1,471	1,487	1,527	1,431	1,501	1,516	1,501	1,523
,, Dec. ,,	1,546	1,562	1,577	1,595	1,548	1,553	1,608	1,503	1,597	1,622	1,571	1,604
1951 Mar. Qtr.	1,612	1,623	1,631	1,651	1,607	1,616	1,657	1,556	1,634	1,674	1,621	1,653
,, June ,,	1,698	1,705	1,739	1,752	1,706	1,706	1,790	1,658	1,749	1,820	1,755	1,785
,, Sept. ,,	1,796	1,821	1,819	1,861	1,792	1,804	1,894	1,829	1,897	1,935	1,881	1,892
,, Dec. ,,	1,934	1,944	1,950	2,006	1,911	1,940	1,990	1,924	1,965	2,022	1,974	1,987

(*a*) For index-numbers for Capital Cities, November, 1914 to 1920, *see* page 20. (*b*) Charters Towers. (*c*) Warwick.

All Items ("C" Series) Retail Price Index-Numbers : Thirty Towns—*continued.*

(Base : Weighted Average of Six Capital Cities, 1923–27 = 1,000.)

Period.	WESTERN AUSTRALIA.						TASMANIA.						Weighted Average, Six Capital Cities.	Weighted Average, 30 Towns, Australia.
	Perth and Fremantle.	Kalgoorlie and Boulder.	Northam.	Bunbury.	Geraldton.	Weighted Av'ge, 5 Towns.	Hobart.	Launceston.	Burnie.	Devonport	Queenstown.	Weighted Av'ge, 5 Towns.		
Nov. 1914(*a*)	707	..	..	..	..	..	687	..	..	..	..	..	687	..
,, 1921	1,008	1,048	*b* 1,030	1,045	1,056	1,020	1,070	1,067	*c* 1,003	*d* 904	1,031	1,057	1,013	1,013
,, 1922	931	964	958	968	970	941	997	976	*c* 919	*d* 798	944	975	975	967
Year 1923	977	1,006	965	962	1,016	981	1,042	985	971	956	968	1,016	1,003	996
,, 1924	982	1,009	969	983	1,012	986	1,051	985	968	950	954	1,020	987	980
,, 1925	994	1,009	1,008	985	1,027	996	1,028	968	952	941	978	1,002	997	991
,, 1926	992	1,002	998	978	1,012	994	1,035	973	957	948	956	1,007	1,011	1,006
,, 1927	984	984	988	963	1,010	985	998	953	936	925	932	977	1,002	997
,, 1928	1,012	995	1,003	963	1,029	1,009	980	957	941	909	934	966	1,009	1,003
,, 1929	1,026	1,032	1,022	978	1,051	1,026	1,000	967	966	948	972	986	1,033	1,026
,, 1930	977	986	969	966	1,029	979	956	949	918	920	949	951	975	971
,, 1931	885	937	878	877	951	891	875	865	837	831	881	869	873	870
,, 1932	840	940	844	842	904	852	844	832	811	800	875	838	830	829
,, 1933	811	937	814	824	851	825	825	817	775	773	867	820	804	803
,, 1934	830	975	825	843	866	842	837	828	780	787	876	831	817	816
,, 1935	834	1,011	829	865	886	848	849	834	792	801	873	841	832	831
,, 1936	856	1,027	860	880	933	870	860	840	814	809	850	850	850	848
,, 1937	869	1,030	890	897	970	884	875	856	854	833	857	866	873	871
,, 1938	882	1,048	900	914	957	897	887	872	865	848	875	879	897	894
,, 1939	901	1,066	915	936	965	915	908	888	879	861	903	898	920	917
,, 1940	932	1,099	947	962	990	946	945	926	917	896	936	936	957	954
,, 1941	993	1,165	1,017	1,018	1,055	1,008	1,001	974	971	951	987	989	1,008	1,006
,, 1942	1,061	1,175	1,079	1,065	1,114	1,070	1,078	1,040	1,035	1,012	1,045	1,060	1,091	1,087
,, 1943	1,104	1,192	1,111	1,102	1,165	1,112	1,117	1,078	1,088	1,058	1,096	1,101	1,131	1,127
,, 1944	1,105	1,199	1,113	1,110	1,176	1,113	1,105	1,067	1,065	1,040	1,102	1,089	1,126	1,122
,, 1945	1,107	1,202	1,113	1,115	1,170	1,116	1,107	1,072	1,063	1,045	1,110	1,092	1,126	1,123
,, 1946	1,127	1,223	1,133	1,136	1,187	1,136	1,138	1,099	1,093	1,079	1,139	1,121	1,145	1,142
,, 1947	1,161	1,265	1,171	1,173	1,221	1,170	1,178	1,147	1,132	1,119	1,179	1,164	1,188	1,185
,, 1948	1,264	1,368	1,272	1,277	1,327	1,273	1,292	1,254	1,232	1,220	1,280	1,274	1,295	1,292
,, 1949	1,410	1,502	1,420	1,424	1,475	1,418	1,419	1,389	1,367	1,351	1,400	1,404	1,415	1,413
,, 1950	1,538	1,636	1,550	1,559	1,611	1,547	1,526	1,493	1,484	1,481	1,494	1,511	1,560	1,556
,, 1951	1,860	1,940	1,870	1,870	1,956	1,868	1,861	1,857	1,810	1,793	1,808	1,852	1,883	1,880
1939—														
Sept. Qtr.	904	1,069	919	939	966	918	905	886	878	860	902	896	916	914
1945—														
Mar. Qtr.	1,104	1,197	1,111	1,111	1,167	1,113	1,101	1,064	1,053	1,037	1,104	1,085	1,123	1,120
June ,,	1,108	1,204	1,115	1,117	1,171	1,117	1,099	1,067	1,055	1,038	1,106	1,085	1,125	1,122
Sept. ,,	1,108	1,204	1,114	1,116	1,172	1,117	1,107	1,073	1,065	1,045	1,112	1,092	1,126	1,123
Dec. ,,	1,107	1,202	1,110	1,115	1,168	1,115	1,120	1,085	1,080	1,060	1,118	1,105	1,129	1,126
1946—														
Mar. Qtr.	1,116	1,215	1,121	1,126	1,177	1,125	1,120	1,085	1,078	1,063	1,119	1,105	1,134	1,131
June ,,	1,127	1,224	1,135	1,136	1,189	1,135	1,132	1,096	1,091	1,077	1,134	1,117	1,145	1,142
Sept. ,,	1,128	1,223	1,134	1,137	1,188	1,137	1,143	1,102	1,098	1,086	1,151	1,126	1,146	1,143
Dec. ,,	1,136	1,231	1,141	1,145	1,195	1,145	1,155	1,114	1,103	1,091	1,153	1,137	1,156	1,153
1947—														
Mar. Qtr.	1,136	1,239	1,145	1,149	1,196	1,145	1,152	1,119	1,106	1,094	1,153	1,137	1,165	1,162
June ,,	1,151	1,253	1,160	1,163	1,209	1,160	1,158	1,133	1,115	1,105	1,163	1,147	1,174	1,171
Sept. ,,	1,167	1,270	1,177	1,180	1,229	1,176	1,187	1,153	1,139	1,126	1,188	1,172	1,192	1,189
Dec. ,,	1,189	1,297	1,200	1,201	1,251	1,199	1,216	1,183	1,167	1,149	1,213	1,201	1,221	1,218
1948—														
Mar. Qtr.	1,221	1,331	1,227	1,232	1,280	1,230	1,240	1,208	1,188	1,172	1,237	1,225	1,248	1,245
June ,,	1,238	1,342	1,248	1,249	1,300	1,247	1,276	1,241	1,218	1,213	1,267	1,260	1,278	1,275
Sept. ,,	1,282	1,383	1,289	1,298	1,344	1,291	1,307	1,267	1,243	1,237	1,292	1,288	1,311	1,308
Dec. ,,	1,316	1,415	1,322	1,327	1,383	1,325	1,344	1,301	1,279	1,259	1,325	1,324	1,341	1,338
1949—														
Mar. Qtr.	1,338	1,441	1,347	1,355	1,411	1,348	1,379	1,346	1,323	1,306	1,361	1,363	1,364	1,362
June ,,	1,406	1,498	1,419	1,421	1,472	1,414	1,412	1,385	1,355	1,337	1,395	1,397	1,403	1,401
Sept. ,,	1,435	1,525	1,446	1,447	1,494	1,443	1,425	1,398	1,382	1,364	1,407	1,411	1,428	1,425
Dec. ,,	1,459	1,544	1,467	1,472	1,521	1,467	1,459	1,425	1,406	1,398	1,436	1,443	1,466	1,463
1950—														
Mar. Qtr.	1,479	1,571	1,494	1,499	1,546	1,487	1,455	1,424	1,417	1,413	1,431	1,441	1,491	1,488
June ,,	1,517	1,616	1,532	1,532	1,590	1,526	1,501	1,465	1,459	1,454	1,471	1,485	1,534	1,530
Sept. ,,	1,547	1,652	1,561	1,573	1,623	1,557	1,547	1,513	1,492	1,487	1,518	1,531	1,572	1,568
Dec. ,,	1,607	1,706	1,614	1,633	1,686	1,617	1,601	1,569	1,566	1,571	1,555	1,587	1,643	1,639
1951—														
Mar. Qtr.	1,712	1,782	1,732	1,719	1,809	1,720	1,676	1,668	1,640	1,630	1,617	1,668	1,713	1,710
June ,,	1,827	1,906	1,842	1,825	1,921	1,835	1,811	1,788	1,742	1,723	1,728	1,794	1,833	1,830
Sept. ,,	1,911	1,995	1,915	1,923	2,002	1,919	1,931	1,955	1,888	1,877	1,898	1,933	1,943	1,940
Dec. ,,	1,989	2,078	1,991	2,012	2,090	1,998	2,024	2,015	1,969	1,942	1,988	2,014	2,042	2,040

(*a*) For index-numbers for Capital Cities, November, 1914 to 1920, *see* page 20. (*b*) Midland Junction. (*c*) Zeehan. (*d*) Beaconsfield.

Retail Price Index-Numbers : Group (*a*), "B" Series and All Items ("C" Series), Additional Towns not included in Weighted Average, Thirty Towns.

(*Base of each "Group", &c. : Weighted Average of Six Capital Cities, 1923-27 = 1,000.*)

ANNUAL.

Town.	1939.	1941.	1942.	1943.	1944.	1945.	1946.	1947.	1948.	1949.	1950.	1951.
GROUP I.—FOOD AND GROCERIES.												
Warwick, Qld. ..	860	900	958	966	984	991	1,010	1,091	1,223	1,360	1,484	1,881
Port Augusta, S.A...	995	1,033	1,091	1,063	1,054	1,063	1,067	1,130	1,284	1,414	1,592	2,034
Whyalla, S.A. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,173	1,320	1,439	1,617	2,080
Canberra, A.C.T. ..	1,057	1,059	1,142	1,133	1,108	1,109	1,114	1,168	1,324	1,472	1,634	2,155
GROUP II.—HOUSING (4 AND 5-ROOMED HOUSES).(*b*)												
Warwick, Qld. ..	667	693	702	730	737	740	745	751	756	763	772	781
Port Augusta, S.A...	665	688	690	688	701	715	718	722	725	729	749	782
Whyalla, S.A. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	770	771	773	773	852
Canberra, A.C.T. ..	983	984	985	986	986	987	988	988	989	990	993	1,003
GROUPS I.–II.—FOOD, GROCERIES AND HOUSING ("B" SERIES INDEX).												
Warwick, Qld. ..	783	817	856	872	886	891	904	956	1,039	1,124	1,203	1,448
Port Augusta, S.A...	864	896	932	914	914	925	929	968	1,063	1,144	1,260	1,541
Whyalla, S.A. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,013	1,103	1,176	1,284	1,596
Canberra, A.C.T. ..	1,026	1,028	1,078	1,073	1,058	1,059	1,062	1,096	1,191	1,280	1,381	1,701
GROUP III.—CLOTHING.												
Warwick, Qld. ..	834	1,107	1,292	1,427	1,417	1,419	1,484	1,561	1,732	1,961	2,202	2,662
Port Augusta, S.A...	851	1,112	1,283	1,408	1,415	1,419	1,501	1,595	1,788	2,007	2,268	2,727
Whyalla, S.A. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,584	1,757	1,986	2,255	2,735
Canberra, A.C.T. ..	852	1,150	1,334	1,508	1,485	1,468	1,550	1,607	1,826	2,117	2,431	2,893
GROUP IV.—MISCELLANEOUS.												
Warwick, Qld. ..	1,009	1,072	1,159	1,213	1,215	1,214	1,218	1,235	1,287	1,359	1,431	1,667
Port Augusta, S.A...	993	1,099	1,172	1,209	1,210	1,210	1,212	1,256	1,318	1,374	1,446	1,678
Whyalla, S.A. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,225	1,284	1,328	1,397	1,626
Canberra, A.C.T. ..	868	967	1,016	1,082	1,078	1,077	1,080	1,122	1,192	1,251	1,340	1,551
GROUPS I.–IV.—ALL ITEMS ("C" SERIES) INDEX.												
Warwick, Qld. ..	834	926	1,007	1,055	1,061	1,064	1,087	1,138	1,234	1,349	1,461	1,751
Port Augusta, S.A...	883	980	1,052	1,076	1,076	1,084	1,105	1,157	1,267	1,373	1,512	1,823
Whyalla, S.A. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,175	1,277	1,379	1,515	1,848
Canberra, A.C.T. ..	956	1,040	1,121	1,168	1,153	1,149	1,170	1,210	1,327	1,456	1,600	1,931

QUARTERLY.

Town.	1949.				1950.				1951.			
	Mar. Qtr.	June Qtr.	Sept. Qtr.	Dec. Qtr.	Mar. Qtr.	June Qtr.	Sept. Qtr.	Dec. Qtr.	Mar. Qtr.	June Qtr.	Sept. Qtr.	Dec. Qtr.
GROUP I.—FOOD AND GROCERIES.												
Warwick, Qld. ..	1,326	1,360	1,366	1,388	1,422	1,444	1,491	1,577	1,642	1,772	1,943	2,165
Port Augusta, S.A...	1,391	1,391	1,409	1,464	1,506	1,535	1,602	1,724	1,790	1,904	2,151	2,292
Whyalla, S.A. ..	1,405	1,413	1,433	1,503	1,543	1,558	1,611	1,757	1,863	1,957	2,173	2,325
Canberra, A.C.T. ..	1,449	1,456	1,472	1,511	1,539	1,562	1,654	1,781	1,878	1,967	2,290	2,483
GROUP II.—HOUSING (4 AND 5-ROOMED HOUSES).(*b*)												
Warwick, Qld. ..	763	763	763	763	763	763	781	781	781	781	781	781
Port Augusta, S.A...	726	726	726	738	739	739	756	762	763	770	795	800
Whyalla, S.A. ..	773	773	773	773	773	773	773	773	773	773	930	930
Canberra, A.C.T. ..	990	990	990	990	990	990	991	1,002	1,002	1,003	1,003	1,003
GROUPS I.–II.—FOOD, GROCERIES AND HOUSING ("B" SERIES INDEX).												
Warwick, Qld. ..	1,103	1,124	1,128	1,141	1,162	1,175	1,211	1,263	1,303	1,382	1,486	1,621
Port Augusta, S.A...	1,128	1,129	1,140	1,177	1,204	1,221	1,268	1,345	1,385	1,457	1,617	1,705
Whyalla, S.A. ..	1,155	1,160	1,173	1,215	1,239	1,249	1,280	1,369	1,434	1,491	1,683	1,776
Canberra, A.C.T. ..	1,266	1,271	1,280	1,304	1,322	1,336	1,392	1,473	1,532	1,587	1,783	1,901
GROUP III.—CLOTHING.												
Warwick, Qld. ..	1,798	1,940	2,032	2,073	2,093	2,175	2,229	2,312	2,400	2,640	2,751	2,858
Port Augusta, S.A...	1,852	1,960	2,072	2,145	2,153	2,244	2,287	2,386	2,449	2,677	2,827	2,955
Whyalla, S.A. ..	1,841	1,965	2,035	2,101	2,109	2,243	2,281	2,388	2,467	2,721	2,825	2,927
Canberra, A.C.T. ..	1,954	2,092	2,159	2,261	2,310	2,410	2,466	2,538	2,637	2,917	2,974	3,045
GROUP IV.—MISCELLANEOUS.												
Warwick, Qld. ..	1,323	1,333	1,387	1,394	1,392	1,394	1,441	1,495	1,580	1,603	1,703	1,780
Port Augusta, S.A...	1,347	1,379	1,384	1,386	1,386	1,421	1,449	1,526	1,547	1,656	1,729	1,780
Whyalla, S.A. ..	1,297	1,329	1,343	1,343	1,342	1,377	1,395	1,472	1,494	1,604	1,677	1,730
Canberra, A.C.T. ..	1,232	1,254	1,258	1,260	1,300	1,327	1,338	1,395	1,422	1,538	1,583	1,662
GROUPS I.–IV.—ALL ITEMS ("C" SERIES) INDEX.												
Warwick, Qld. ..	1,294	1,339	1,371	1,390	1,406	1,432	1,474	1,533	1,591	1,696	1,800	1,918
Port Augusta, S.A...	1,325	1,355	1,387	1,426	1,443	1,479	1,522	1,604	1,645	1,758	1,899	1,989
Whyalla, S.A. ..	1,329	1,365	1,391	1,430	1,446	1,488	1,518	1,609	1,668	1,778	1,928	2,016
Canberra, A.C.T. ..	1,408	1,445	1,466	1,503	1,531	1,567	1,614	1,689	1,751	1,866	2,003	2,103

(*a*) *See* footnote (*a*) on page 10. (*b*) *See* footnote (*b*) on page 10.

Retail Price "Group" Index-Numbers(a): Thirty Towns.

(Base of each Group: Weighted Average of Six Capital Cities, 1923–27 = 1,000.)

Period.	NEW SOUTH WALES.						VICTORIA.					
	Sydney.	Newcastle.	Broken Hill.	Goulburn.	Bathurst.	Weighted Average, 5 Towns.	Melbourne.	Ballarat.	Bendigo.	Geelong.	Warrnambool.	Weighted Average, 5 Towns.
GROUP I.—FOOD AND GROCERIES.												
Nov. 1914 (b)	638	..	..	..	..	..	616	..	..	..	..	..
,, 1921 ..	964	977	972	950	935	964	923	928	919	941	948	924
Year 1939 ..	936	965	1,106	991	940	942	942	939	930	946	955	942
,, 1944 ..	1,025	1,045	1,252	1,079	1,024	1,032	1,049	1,037	1,042	1,006	1,037	1,047
,, 1945 ..	1,035	1,048	1,278	1,073	1,036	1,041	1,057	1,045	1,046	1,006	1,060	1,055
,, 1946 ..	1,039	1,049	1,277	1,070	1,048	1,044	1,052	1,051	1,050	1,012	1,079	1,051
,, 1947 ..	1,110	1,123	1,337	1,126	1,114	1,116	1,110	1,104	1,090	1,095	1,115	1,109
,, 1948 ..	1,258	1,277	1,494	1,290	1,271	1,264	1,274	1,269	1,245	1,265	1,267	1,272
,, 1949 ..	1,388	1,401	1,696	1,445	1,414	1,395	1,418	1,413	1,397	1,411	1,395	1,417
,, 1950 ..	1,572	1,570	1,899	1,634	1,616	1,579	1,605	1,595	1,595	1,597	1,602	1,604
,, 1951 ..	2,099	2,168	2,320	2,196	2,117	2,109	2,088	2,149	2,040	2,116	2,120	2,090
1951 Mar. Qtr.	1,826	1,902	2,112	1,892	1,880	1,838	1,837	1,813	1,799	1,840	1,847	1,836
,, June ,,	1,943	2,029	2,198	2,070	1,957	1,955	2,009	2,093	1,921	2,092	1,999	2,012
,, Sept. ,,	2,226	2,268	2,350	2,331	2,225	2,232	2,173	2,274	2,137	2,203	2,248	2,177
,, Dec. ,,	2,401	2,472	2,617	2,490	2,404	2,411	2,334	2,417	2,301	2,329	2,385	2,337
GROUP II.—HOUSING (4 AND 5-ROOMED HOUSES).(c)												
Nov. 1914 (b)	758	..	..	..	..	..	608	..	..	..	..	..
,, 1921 ..	1,000	885	559	881	596	966	845	479	527	668	685	789
Year 1939 ..	1,035	890	764	871	843	1,015	955	714	731	876	921	938
,, 1944 ..	1,043	903	753	882	843	1,023	974	711	743	888	934	955
,, 1945 ..	1,043	903	760	885	843	1,024	973	710	744	887	934	955
,, 1946 ..	1,043	904	761	886	843	1,024	973	713	743	887	934	955
,, 1947 ..	1,044	904	763	887	844	1,025	974	715	743	888	934	956
,, 1948 ..	1,047	906	764	888	845	1,027	974	720	746	888	934	956
,, 1949 ..	1,049	908	776	890	847	1,030	976	724	748	889	934	958
,, 1950 ..	1,050	908	782	892	848	1,031	979	729	764	890	945	961
,, 1951 ..	1,053	908	784	892	854	1,034	980	736	777	890	945	963
1951 Mar. Qtr.	1,051	908	783	892	848	1,032	980	735	773	890	945	962
,, June ,,	1,051	908	783	892	848	1,032	980	736	775	890	945	963
,, Sept. ,,	1,053	908	785	892	858	1,034	980	736	780	890	945	963
,, Dec ,,	1,056	908	785	892	861	1,036	980	736	780	890	945	963
GROUP III.—CLOTHING.												
Nov. 1914 (b)	755	..	..	..	..	..	780	..	..	..	..	..
,, 1921 ..	1,255	1,327	1,269	1,374	1,261	1,264	1,271	1,599	1,570	1,463	1,612	1,326
Year 1939 ..	843	823	850	861	840	842	832	851	841	846	842	833
,, 1944 ..	1,440	1,407	1,439	1,458	1,459	1,438	1,446	1,471	1,490	1,477	1,472	1,450
,, 1945 ..	1,425	1,430	1,455	1,448	1,455	1,427	1,431	1,470	1,478	1,480	1,480	1,436
,, 1946 ..	1,516	1,510	1,548	1,538	1,545	1,517	1,502	1,497	1,510	1,519	1,515	1,503
,, 1947 ..	1,573	1,573	1,588	1,607	1,610	1,574	1,563	1,566	1,582	1,572	1,588	1,564
,, 1948 ..	1,766	1,778	1,792	1,805	1,822	1,768	1,723	1,744	1,742	1,735	1,738	1,725
,, 1949 ..	2,022	2,063	2,079	2,092	2,106	2,027	1,975	1,996	1,991	1,981	1,981	1,977
,, 1950 ..	2,329	2,347	2,384	2,381	2,379	2,333	2,259	2,269	2,259	2,279	2,280	2,260
,, 1951 ..	2,806	2,827	2,863	2,816	2,857	2,809	2,697	2,742	2,723	2,701	2,709	2,700
1951 Mar. Qtr.	2,541	2,558	2,579	2,595	2,585	2,544	2,450	2,485	2,451	2,448	2,467	2,451
,, June ,,	2,819	2,869	2,849	2,774	2,888	2,823	2,689	2,731	2,706	2,667	2,679	2,690
,, Sept. ,,	2,900	2,902	2,947	2,894	2,962	2,902	2,763	2,797	2,800	2,780	2,802	2,766
,, Dec. ,,	2,964	2,978	3,075	2,999	2,991	2,968	2,886	2,953	2,933	2,909	2,888	2,891
GROUP IV.—MISCELLANEOUS.												
Nov. 1914 (b)	766	..	..	..	..	..	728	..	..	..	..	..
,, 1921 ..	1,009	995	1,102	951	989	1,011	1,021	956	1,012	1,033	880	1,015
Year 1939 ..	940	901	1,048	908	888	938	977	990	1,004	980	951	978
,, 1944 ..	1,171	1,079	1,287	1,108	1,096	1,165	1,158	1,198	1,221	1,190	1,167	1,162
,, 1945 ..	1,163	1,080	1,280	1,107	1,098	1,158	1,159	1,198	1,217	1,192	1,165	1,163
,, 1946 ..	1,170	1,083	1,296	1,111	1,101	1,165	1,164	1,197	1,217	1,193	1,164	1,168
,, 1947 ..	1,216	1,125	1,350	1,156	1,147	1,210	1,187	1,218	1,239	1,213	1,185	1,191
,, 1948 ..	1,268	1,184	1,445	1,214	1,208	1,264	1,249	1,276	1,295	1,272	1,240	1,252
,, 1949 ..	1,364	1,266	1,520	1,296	1,271	1,358	1,321	1,351	1,358	1,340	1,320	1,324
,, 1950 ..	1,470	1,361	1,640	1,402	1,359	1,464	1,426	1,449	1,470	1,442	1,417	1,428
,, 1951 ..	1,711	1,563	1,897	1,650	1,590	1,702	1,668	1,677	1,695	1,675	1,672	1,669
1951 Mar. Qtr.	1,565	1,442	1,759	1,518	1,434	1,558	1,576	1,599	1,606	1,598	1,575	1,578
,, June ,,	1,689	1,522	1,842	1,604	1,567	1,678	1,611	1,627	1,653	1,621	1,602	1,613
,, Sept. ,,	1,753	1,580	1,921	1,673	1,642	1,741	1,695	1,700	1,722	1,697	1,694	1,696
,, Dec. ,,	1,836	1,707	2,064	1,803	1,718	1,829	1,789	1,783	1,799	1,783	1,818	1,789

(a) *See* footnote (a) on page 10. (b) For index-numbers for Capital Cities, November, 1914 to 1920, *see* page 20. (c) *See* footnote (b) on page 10.

Retail Price "Group" Index-Numbers (*a*): Thirty Towns—*continued.*

(***Base** of each Group: Weighted Average of Six Capital Cities, 1923–27 = 1,000.*)

Period.	QUEENSLAND.						SOUTH AUSTRALIA.					
	Brisbane.	Toowoomba.	Rockhampton.	Townsville.	Bundaberg.	Weighted Average, 5 Towns.	Adelaide.	Kadina, Moonta and Wallaroo.	Port Pirie.	Mt. Gambier.	Peterborough.	Weighted Average, 5 Towns.
GROUP I.—FOOD AND GROCERIES.												
Nov. 1914 (*b*)	614	..	..	..	..	..	683	..	..	..	..	..
,, 1921 ..	955	895	949	981*c*	936*d*	950	941	945	968	923	997	**943**
Year 1939 ..	864	823	904	961	912	872	897	973	996	937	981	**904**
,, 1944 ..	965	1,003	1,002	1,049	1,027	977	993	1,030	1,061	996	1,033	**997**
,, 1945 ..	966	1,009	1,016	1,055	1,025	980	1,002	1,034	1,074	1,014	1,054	**1,006**
,, 1946 ..	981	1,018	1,016	1,071	1,039	993	1,006	1,049	1,079	1,027	1,056	**1,011**
,, 1947 ..	1,055	1,092	1,097	1,148	1,112	1,068	1,067	1,103	1,141	1,071	1,117	**1,071**
,, 1948 ..	1,208	1,228	1,244	1,295	1,255	1,219	1,230	1,234	1,294	1,220	1,269	1,233
,, 1949 ..	1,332	1,358	1,373	1,442	1,383	1,346	1,351	1,386	1,422	1,332	1,393	1,355
,, 1950 ..	1,462	1,480	1,523	1,560	1,515	1,476	1,494	1,531	1,585	1,557	1,524	1,500
,, 1951 ..	1,823	1,859	1,913	1,941	1,881	1,842	1,931	1,948	2,035	2,108	1,974	1,939
1951 Mar. Qtr.	1,610	1,640	1,725	1,700	1,701	1,629	1,684	1,709	1,780	1,856	1,698	1,691
,, June ,,	1,690	1,722	1,801	1,787	1,773	1,709	1,842	1,803	1,886	2,028	1,850	1,854
,, Sept. ,,	1,847	1,904	1,931	1,996	1,909	1,869	2,024	2,070	2,193	2,213	2,113	2,036
,, Dec. ,,	2,145	2,169	2,194	2,281	2,142	2,159	2,175	2,209	2,281	2,335	2,235	2,183
GROUP II.—HOUSING (4 AND 5-ROOMED HOUSES).(*e*)												
Nov. 1914 (*b*)	463	..	..	..	..	..	611	..	..	..	..	..
,, 1921 ..	629	547	470	528*c*	535*d*	594	819	566	603	492	566	**781**
Year 1939 ..	854	847	753	861	640	840	888	388	710	686	753	**862**
,, 1944 ..	863	859	767	865	672	850	892	385	713	715	754	**866**
,, 1945 ..	863	861	768	865	674	851	892	386	713	715	755	**866**
,, 1946 ..	863	862	773	866	681	851	894	390	712	716	755	**867**
,, 1947 ..	864	864	780	866	682	853	897	398	711	718	755	**870**
,, 1948 ..	866	874	785	866	685	855	903	402	710	718	757	876
,, 1949 ..	869	883	796	867	689	859	912	407	710	722	762	885
,, 1950 ..	883	904	823	868	704	874	929	407	712	731	764	900
,, 1951 ..	934	945	849	887	727	919	949	529	731	756	779	924
1951 Mar. Qtr.	920	943	838	868	722	906	938	451	714	734	779	910
,, June ,,	931	946	849	880	722	916	945	451	714	734	779	916
,, Sept. ,,	936	946	852	880	722	921	954	607	747	775	779	932
,, Dec. ,,	947	946	855	918	743	933	960	607	750	779	779	937
GROUP III.—CLOTHING.												
Nov. 1914 (*b*)	657	..	..	..	..	..	756	..	..	..	..	..
,, 1921 ..	1,125	1,408	1,452	1,568*c*	1,519*d*	1,235	1,195	1,435	1,480	1,697	1,180	1,238
Year 1939 ..	840	838	856	855	852	843	863	852	854	852	844	**862**
,, 1944 ..	1,427	1,406	1,454	1,455	1,438	1,430	1,409	1,395	1,412	1,420	1,429	**1,409**
,, 1945 ..	1,431	1,405	1,454	1,437	1,424	1,431	1,413	1,405	1,410	1,416	1,419	**1,413**
,, 1946 ..	1,503	1,478	1,519	1,507	1,495	1,503	1,482	1,466	1,493	1,495	1,482	**1,482**
,, 1947 ..	1,564	1,543	1 568	1,571	1,541	1,563	1,554	1,557	1,579	1,581	1,569	**1,556**
,, 1948 ..	1,735	1,685	1,725	1,728	1,728	1,730	1,727	1,721	1,759	1,724	1,722	1,728
,, 1949 ..	1,948	1,932	1,954	1,957	1,968	1,949	1,991	1,976	1,989	1,954	1,986	1,990
,, 1950 ..	2,226	2,223	2,238	2,246	2,252	2,229	2,256	2,250	2,250	2,231	2,290	**2,256**
,, 1951 ..	2,690	2,655	2,696	2,703	2,733	2,690	2,736	2,688	2,716	2,714	2,724	2,733
1951 Mar. Qtr.	2,436	2,404	2,401	2,437	2,431	2,431	2,456	2,410	2,449	2,438	2,461	2,454
,, June ,,	2,673	2,623	2,696	2,704	2,735	2,675	2,712	2,645	2,708	2,683	2,712	2,709
,, Sept. ,,	2,787	2,773	2,788	2,794	2,839	2,788	2,814	2,764	2,797	2,792	2,786	2,811
,, Dec. ,,	2,864	2,819	2,898	2,878	2,925	2,866	2,962	2,933	2,999	2,941	2,937	2,959
GROUP IV.—MISCELLANEOUS.												
Nov. 1914 (*b*)	728	..	..	..	..	..	770	..	..	..	..	..
,, 1921 ..	944	953	1,002	1,009*c*	988*d*	958	1,033	1,065	1,065	1,032	1,000	**1,036**
Year 1939 ..	955	983	969	996	992	962	1,022	989	999	1,017	994	**1,019**
,, 1944 ..	1,137	1,169	1,171	1,187	1,169	1,146	1,213	1,235	1,207	1,232	1,227	**1,214**
,, 1945 ..	1,133	1,166	1,169	1,178	1,167	1,142	1,213	1,237	1,209	1,233	1,226	**1,214**
,, 1946 ..	1,136	1,167	1,172	1,183	1,156	1,145	1,219	1,242	1,216	1,239	1,233	**1,220**
,, 1947 ..	1,154	1,188	1,188	1,199	1,176	1,163	1,251	1,277	1,242	1,267	1,245	**1,252**
,, 1948 ..	1,215	1,251	1,257	1,274	1,248	1,225	1,327	1,351	1,317	1,358	1,311	1,328
,, 1949 ..	1,290	1,307	1,347	1,373	1,326	1,302	1,394	1,446	1,383	1,424	1,370	1,396
,, 1950 ..	1,363	1,378	1,408	1,453	1,411	1,375	1,470	1,530	1,458	1,506	1,442	1,472
,, 1951 ..	1,603	1,633	1,661	1,730	1,664	1,620	1,710	1,769	1,689	1,797	1,720	1,713
1951 Mar. Qtr.	1,535	1,548	1,558	1,646	1,583	1,546	1,588	1,657	1,566	1,623	1,561	1,590
,, June ,,	1,552	1,565	1,629	1,682	1,620	1,569	1,690	1,747	1,674	1,785	1,692	1,693
,, Sept. ,,	1,631	1,663	1,697	1,753	1,696	1,648	1,759	1,816	1,729	1,866	1,770	1,762
,, Dec. ,,	1,694	1,756	1,760	1,838	1,758	1,715	1,802	1,857	1,785	1,915	1,856	1,806

(*a*) *See* footnote (*a*) on page 10. (*b*) For index-numbers for Capital Cities, November, 1914 to 1920, *see* page 20. (*c*) Charters Towers. (*d*) Warwick. (*e*) *See* footnote (*b*) on page 10.

Retail Price "Group" Index-Numbers(*a*): Thirty Towns—*continued*.

(*Base of each Group: Weighted Average of Six Capital Cities, 1923–27 = 1,000.*)

Period.	WESTERN AUSTRALIA						TASMANIA.						Weighted Average, Six Capital Cities.	Weighted Average, 30 Towns, Australia.
	Perth and Fremantle.	Kalgoorlie and Boulder.	Northam.	Bunbury.	Geraldton.	Weighted Average, 5 Towns.	Hobart.	Launceston.	Burnie.	Devonport.	Queenstown.	Weighted Average, 5 Towns.		
GROUP I.—FOOD AND GROCERIES.														
Nov. 1914 (*b*)	746	..	..	..	..	..	687	..	..	..	..	..	641	..
,, 1921 ..	1,005	1,120	1,054*c*	1,049	1,031	1,033	1,027	958	1,108*d*	996*e*	1,077	1,011	950	954
Year 1939 ..	938	1,092	972	967	947	951	923	914	941	933	1,018	925	927	931
,, 1944 ..	1,056	1,180	1,066	1,036	1,095	1,066	1,035	988	1,030	1,020	1,135	1,023	1,026	1,029
,, 1945 ..	1,060	1,191	1,069	1,045	1,084	1,070	1,043	999	1,024	1,026	1,153	1,032	1,034	1,037
,, 1946 ..	1,059	1,192	1,073	1,057	1,084	1,070	1,069	1,018	1,048	1,052	1,173	1,055	1,036	1,040
,, 1947 ..	1,104	1,239	1,125	1,109	1,133	1,115	1,132	1,092	1,108	1,112	1,233	1,121	1,100	1,104
,, 1948 ..	1,251	1,387	1,272	1,257	1,279	1,262	1,316	1,273	1,276	1,280	1,407	1,303	1,256	1,260
,, 1949 ..	1,437	1,572	1,455	1,443	1,471	1,448	1,495	1,459	1,469	1,473	1,560	1,484	1,394	1,399
,, 1950 ..	1,597	1,728	1,613	1,610	1,636	1,608	1,574	1,534	1,582	1,612	1,613	1,565	1,566	1,570
,, 1951 ..	1,963	2,105	1,995	1,991	2,033	1,976	1,992	2,026	1,999	2,025	2,064	2,007	2,041	2,046
1951 Mar. Qtr.	1,795	1,922	1,814	1,805	1,849	1,805	1,715	1,720	1,731	1,777	1,737	1,721	1,790	1,795
,, June ,,	1,904	2,055	1,938	1,931	1,972	1,918	1,892	1,896	1,847	1,873	1,877	1,891	1,925	1,931
,, Sept. ,,	2,019	2,158	2,051	2,051	2,093	2,032	2,109	2,207	2,141	2,175	2,253	2,149	2,136	2,141
,, Dec. ,,	2,134	2,286	2,175	2,178	2,216	2,148	2,252	2,282	2,276	2,276	2,390	2,268	2,311	2,317
GROUP II.—HOUSING (4 AND 5-ROOMED HOUSES).(*f*)														
Nov. 1914 (*b*)	586	..	..	..	..	..	525	..	..	..	..	..	649	..
,, 1921 ..	754	578	616*c*	649	779	709	870	676	294*d*	150*e*	495	729	877	823
Year 1939 ..	881	1,318	886	1,005	1,064	919	925	851	836	763	806	887	965	947
,, 1944 ..	886	1,036	899	974	1,059	902	932	861	850	770	804	895	976	956
,, 1945 ..	886	1,037	899	975	1,061	902	933	862	851	770	804	896	975	956
,, 1946 ..	886	1,055	900	980	1,064	904	936	864	853	770	809	898	976	957
,, 1947 ..	887	1,080	900	981	1,064	907	936	866	853	770	814	899	977	958
,, 1948 ..	889	1,082	917	985	1,066	910	937	871	853	770	815	901	979	960
,, 1949 ..	895	1,095	956	1,005	1,080	917	940	873	853	773	817	904	982	964
,, 1950 ..	901	1,126	967	1,028	1,094	926	941	876	855	778	818	906	987	968
,, 1951 ..	1,065	1,180	1,182	1,201	1,309	1,083	1,048	1,031	987	873	851	1,025	1,009	992
1951 Mar. Qtr.	1,051	1,143	1,179	1,166	1,303	1,068	1,028	1,027	977	850	851	1,011	1,004	987
,, June ,,	1,062	1,191	1,179	1,173	1,304	1,081	1,051	1,031	982	876	851	1,027	1,007	990
,, Sept. ,,	1,072	1,191	1,185	1,235	1,311	1,091	1,056	1,032	995	883	851	1,031	1,010	993
,, Dec. ..	1,073	1,195	1,185	1,231	1,317	1,092	1,057	1,032	995	883	851	1,031	1,013	996
GROUP III.—CLOTHING.														
Nov. 1914 (*b*)	698	..	..	..	..	..	825	..	..	..	..	..	754	..
,, 1921 ..	1,232	1,376	1,382*c*	1,454	1,320	1,277	1,427	1,670	1,525*d*	1,405*e*	1,504	1,513	1,246	1,290
Year 1939 ..	832	855	842	849	847	834	856	853	843	844	853	854	841	841
,, 1944 ..	1,401	1,429	1,408	1,403	1,419	1,404	1,428	1,406	1,423	1,407	1,425	1,420	1,435	1,435
,, 1945 ..	1,410	1,436	1,407	1,413	1,412	1,412	1,420	1,414	1,426	1,425	1,430	1,419	1,425	1,427
,, 1946 ..	1,497	1,516	1,478	1,482	1,489	1,497	1,510	1,497	1,513	1,538	1,521	1,508	1,505	1,506
,, 1947 ..	1,563	1,594	1,552	1,555	1,553	1,567	1,572	1,570	1,570	1,599	1,579	1,573	1,566	1,567
,, 1948 ..	1,756	1,769	1,706	1,733	1,745	1,755	1,748	1,719	1,720	1,753	1,732	1,738	1,744	1,745
,, 1949 ..	2,033	2,014	1,975	2,003	2,011	2,029	1,992	1,984	1,982	1,996	1,993	1,990	1,997	1,999
,, 1950 ..	2,289	2,285	2,239	2,265	2,276	2,287	2,286	2,273	2,273	2,299	2,282	2,282	2,286	2,287
,, 1951 ..	2,759	2,756	2,681	2,688	2,749	2,755	2,752	2,717	2,727	2,732	2,735	2,739	2,749	2,749
1951 Mar. Qtr.	2,464	2,471	2,425	2,434	2,476	2,463	2,481	2,453	2,475	2,493	2,469	2,472	2,487	2,487
,, June ,,	2,736	2,722	2,663	2,647	2,717	2,731	2,750	2,666	2,729	2,716	2,730	2,721	2,746	2,746
,, Sept. ,,	2,858	2,853	2,762	2,773	2,840	2,853	2,836	2,829	2,805	2,819	2,800	2,831	2,833	2,833
,, Dec. ,,	2,977	2,978	2,872	2,899	2,962	2,973	2,942	2,920	2,900	2,898	2,942	2,932	2,930	2,931
GROUP IV.—MISCELLANEOUS.														
Nov. 1914 (*b*)	780	..	..	..	..	..	699	..	..	..	..	..	749	..
,, 1921 ..	1,029	1,030	1,016*c*	977	1,102	1,029	932	985	941*d*	960*e*	959	952	1,010	1,009
Year 1939 ..	954	974	948	912	1,034	956	938	947	874	882	881	934	962	962
,, 1944 ..	1,144	1,189	1,143	1,100	1,216	1,147	1,100	1,097	997	1,002	1,052	1,089	1,165	1,164
,, 1945 ..	1,138	1,176	1,136	1,094	1,208	1,141	1,100	1,096	997	996	1,053	1,089	1,161	1,160
,, 1946 ..	1,143	1,173	1,153	1,098	1,212	1,146	1,104	1,103	1,004	999	1,058	1,094	1,167	1,166
,, 1947 ..	1,158	1,181	1,170	1,113	1,220	1,160	1,130	1,126	1,029	1,022	1,080	1,118	1,199	1,197
,, 1948 ..	1,202	1,239	1,224	1,166	1,274	1,206	1,175	1,171	1,067	1,060	1,105	1,163	1,257	1,256
,, 1949 ..	1,288	1,300	1,302	1,252	1,368	1,290	1,219	1,218	1,108	1,099	1,145	1,206	1,338	1,336
,, 1950 ..	1,357	1,361	1,372	1,318	1,453	1,358	1,293	1,291	1,171	1,166	1,201	1,278	1,435	1,432
,, 1951 ..	1,624	1,642	1,565	1,536	1,713	1,624	1,600	1,575	1,420	1,413	1,440	1,572	1,679	1,675
1951 Mar. Qtr.	1,521	1,527	1,479	1,428	1,608	1,520	1,490	1,469	1,338	1,329	1,362	1,466	1,564	1,561
,, June ,,	1,592	1,581	1,547	1,495	1,687	1,590	1,522	1,517	1,353	1,318	1,382	1,501	1,641	1,636
,, Sept. ,,	1,663	1,705	1,595	1,567	1,738	1,664	1,644	1,622	1,464	1,457	1,483	1,617	1,715	1,710
,, Dec. ,,	1,720	1,755	1,639	1,653	1,817	1,721	1,744	1,693	1,526	1,519	1,532	1,702	1,794	1,791

(*a*) *See* footnote (*a*) on page 10. (*b*) For index-numbers for Capital Cities, November, 1914 to 1920, *see* page 20. (*c*) Midland Junction. (*d*) Zeehan. (*e*) Beaconsfield. (*f*) *See* footnote (*b*) on page 10.

3. **"B" Series Retail Price Index: Food, Groceries and Rent.**—This index measures the prices of food and groceries and the rent of 4 and 5-roomed houses. It was first compiled for the year 1925, and retrospectively for several earlier years. It was designed to replace the "A" Series Index (food, groceries and rent of all houses), which was the original index compiled in 1912. The first of the following tables covers only the six capital cities and gives index-numbers for the two Groups of the regimen involved split up into their various Sections, while the second table gives the "B" Series Index dissected into its two Groups for each of the 30 towns, the weighted averages of the 5 towns in each State, the six capital cities and the 30 towns. The "B" Series Index (split up into its two Groups) for four additional towns not included in the weighted averages appears on page 24.

Retail Price Index-Numbers(*a*): Capital Cities—"B" Series.

(*Base of each Section: Weighted Average of Six Capital Cities, 1923–27 = 1,000.*)

TOWN.	1907.	1911.	1914.	1921.	1939.	1947.	1948.	1949.	1950	1951.
SECTION A.—GROCERIES.										
Sydney ..	510	574	627	1,115	994	1,026	1,167	1,298	1,411	1,806
Melbourne ..	461	521	562	1,070	957	991	1,153	1,296	1,416	1,739
Brisbane ..	547	614	607	1,105	944	994	1,165	1,305	1,387	1,722
Adelaide ..	510	541	598	1,076	939	995	1,144	1,263	1,374	1,724
Perth ..	572	720	628	1,103	966	1,032	1,183	1,268	1,380	1,650
Hobart ..	501	566	604	1,087	947	991	1,143	1,272	1,390	1,749
SIX CAPITALS (*b*)	499	564	599	1,093	969	1,008	1,161	1,292	1,404	1,757
SECTION B.—DAIRY PRODUCE.										
Sydney ..	551	574	656	1,080	851	977	1,165	1,306	1,439	1,723
Melbourne ..	571	567	635	1,087	885	998	1,189	1,330	1,441	1,715
Brisbane ..	495	581	588	983	793	955	1,115	1,233	1,312	1,530
Adelaide ..	548	651	705	1,018	800	928	1,136	1,258	1,353	1,611
Perth ..	709	733	735	1,152	870	1,000	1,166	1,292	1,436	1,705
Hobart ..	564	587	695	1,091	844	989	1,181	1,319	1,410	1,658
SIX CAPITALS (*b*)	563	591	654	1,072	853	978	1,165	1,301	1,418	1,688
SECTION C.—MEAT.										
Sydney ..	519	501	668	960	935	1,343	1,456	1,571	1,899	2,836
Melbourne ..	557	485	663	1,030	968	1,365	1,502	1,649	2,000	2,896
Brisbane ..	535	488	610	897	822	1,223	1,343	1,453	1,695	2,231
Adelaide ..	553	541	784	1,095	929	1,288	1,423	1,543	1,776	2,503
Perth ..	789	824	881	1,103	958	1,290	1,411	1,785	2,025	2,608
Hobart ..	668	638	780	1,244	961	1,446	1,662	1,945	1,962	2,624
SIX CAPITALS (*b*)	558	522	691	1,010	936	1,332	1,458	1,603	1,909	2,744
SECTIONS A, B AND C COMBINED.—FOOD AND GROCERIES.										
Sydney ..	523	553	646	1,062	936	1,110	1,258	1,388	1,572	2,099
Melbourne ..	517	523	610	1,063	942	1,110	1,274	1,418	1,605	2,088
Brisbane ..	530	569	603	1,014	864	1,055	1,208	1,332	1,462	1,823
Adelaide ..	532	570	679	1,066	897	1,067	1,230	1,351	1,494	1,931
Perth ..	670	753	728	1,166	938	1,104	1,251	1,437	1,597	1,963
Hobart ..	565	592	678	1,133	923	1,132	1,316	1,495	1,574	1,992
SIX CAPITALS (*b*)	533	559	640	1,064	927	1,100	1,256	1,394	1,566	2,041
SECTION D.—HOUSING (4 AND 5-ROOMED HOUSES). (*c*)										
Sydney ..	593	701	760	989	1,035	1,044	1,047	1,049	1,050	1,053
Melbourne ..	455	569	628	820	955	974	974	976	979	980
Brisbane ..	283	373	466	630	854	864	866	869	883	934
Adelaide ..	510	706	635	809	888	897	903	912	929	949
Perth ..	458	524	589	739	881	887	889	895	901	1,065
Hobart ..	405	452	518	881	925	936	937	940	941	1,048
SIX CAPITALS (*b*)	497	612	662	862	965	977	979	982	987	1,009
ALL SECTIONS COMBINED.—FOOD, GROCERIES, AND HOUSING.										
Sydney ..	548	606	687	1,036	972	1,082	1,173	1,252	1,365	1,686
Melbourne ..	495	539	616	977	945	1,054	1,154	1,243	1,357	1,652
Brisbane ..	442	500	554	877	858	978	1,072	1,149	1,233	1,472
Adelaide ..	524	618	671	975	891	998	1,100	1,177	1,270	1,544
Perth ..	594	672	679	982	914	1,017	1,107	1,222	1,322	1,608
Hobart ..	508	542	621	1,044	922	1,053	1,165	1,275	1,324	1,620
SIX CAPITALS (*b*)	520	578	648	992	939	1,050	1,145	1,230	1,336	1,634

(*a*) *See* footnote (*a*) on page 10. (*b*) Weighted average. (*c*) *See* footnote (*b*) on page 10.

"B" Series Retail Price Index-Numbers: Thirty Towns.

(Base of each Group (a): Weighted Average of Six Capital Cities, 1923-27 = 1,000.)

Period.	NEW SOUTH WALES.						VICTORIA.					
	Sydney.	Newcastle.	Broken Hill.	Goulburn.	Bathurst.	Weighted Average, 5 Towns.	Melbourne.	Ballarat.	Bendigo.	Geelong.	Warrnambool.	Weighted Average, 5 Towns.
GROUP I.—FOOD AND GROCERIES.												
Nov. 1914 ..	638	..	..	..	..	..	616	..	..	..	..	..
,, 1921 ..	964	977	972	950	935	964	923	928	919	941	948	924
Year 1939 ..	936	965	1,106	991	940	942	942	939	930	946	955	942
,, 1944 ..	1,025	1,045	1,252	1,079	1,024	1,032	1,049	1,037	1,042	1,006	1,037	1,047
,, 1945 ..	1,035	1,048	1,278	1,073	1,036	1,041	1,057	1,045	1,046	1,006	1,060	1,055
,, 1946 ..	1,039	1,049	1,277	1,070	1,048	1,044	1,052	1,051	1,050	1,012	1,079	1,051
,, 1947 ..	1,110	1,123	1,337	1,126	1,114	1,116	1,110	1,104	1,090	1,095	1,115	1,109
,, 1948 ..	1,258	1,277	1,494	1,290	1,271	1,264	1,274	1,269	1,245	1,265	1,267	1,272
,, 1949 ..	1,388	1,401	1,696	1,445	1,414	1,395	1,418	1,413	1,397	1,411	1,395	1,417
,, 1950 ..	1,572	1,570	1,899	1,634	1,616	1,579	1,605	1,595	1,595	1,597	1,602	1,604
,, 1951 ..	2,099	2,168	2,320	2,196	2,117	2,109	2,088	2,149	2,040	2,116	2,120	2,090
1951 Mar. Qtr.	1,826	1,902	2,112	1,892	1,880	1,838	1,837	1,813	1,799	1,840	1,847	1,836
,, June ,,	1,943	2,029	2,198	2,070	1,957	1,955	2,009	2,003	1,921	2,092	1,999	2,012
,, Sept. ,,	2,226	2,268	2,350	2,331	2,225	2,232	2,173	2,274	2,137	2,203	2,248	2,177
,, Dec. ,,	2,401	2,472	2,617	2,490	2,404	2,411	2,334	2,417	2,301	2,329	2,385	2,337
1951.												
January ..	1,815	1,813	2,099	1,853	1,864	1,821	1,775	1,762	1,765	1,749	1,806	1,774
February ..	1,825	1,929	2,115	1,882	1,881	1,840	1,841	1,814	1,798	1,778	1,846	1,837
March ..	1,838	1,965	2,122	1,942	1,895	1,854	1,896	1,864	1,833	1,993	1,890	1,897
April ..	1,894	2,005	2,166	1,971	1,923	1,908	1,962	2,020	1,872	2,076	1,979	1,966
May ..	1,919	2,024	2,189	1,996	1,947	1,933	1,995	2,113	1,920	2,095	2,007	2,001
June ..	2,015	2,058	2,238	2,244	2,001	2,025	2,069	2,146	1,971	2,104	2,011	2,070
July ..	2,186	2,186	2,316	2,313	2,195	2,190	2,077	2,210	2,030	2,165	2,223	2,085
August ..	2,224	2,259	2,347	2,324	2,219	2,230	2,189	2,256	2,166	2,176	2,227	2,191
September ..	2,267	2,350	2,388	2,356	2,261	2,277	2,252	2,355	2,214	2,268	2,293	2,256
October ..	2,315	2,413	2,441	2,390	2,283	2,325	2,292	2,375	2,253	2,293	2,327	2,295
November ..	2,454	2,542	2,701	2,542	2,458	2,466	2,365	2,431	2,313	2,338	2,404	2,365
December ..	2,434	2,462	2,710	2,539	2,471	2,443	2,346	2,445	2,338	2,356	2,423	2,350
GROUP II.—HOUSING (4 AND 5-ROOMED HOUSES). (b)												
Nov. 1914 ..	758	..	..	..	..	..	608	..	..	..	..	..
,, 1921 ..	1,000	885	559	881	596	966	845	479	527	668	685	789
Year 1939 ..	1,035	890	764	871	843	1,015	955	714	731	876	921	938
,, 1944 ..	1,043	903	753	882	843	1,023	974	711	743	888	934	953
,, 1945 ..	1,043	903	760	885	843	1,024	973	710	744	887	934	955
,, 1946 ..	1,043	904	761	886	843	1,024	973	713	743	887	934	955
,, 1947 ..	1,044	904	763	887	844	1,025	974	715	743	888	934	956
,, 1948 ..	1,047	906	764	888	845	1,027	974	720	746	888	934	956
,, 1949 ..	1,049	908	776	890	847	1,030	976	724	748	889	934	958
,, 1950 ..	1,050	908	782	892	848	1,031	979	729	764	890	945	961
,, 1951 ..	1,053	908	784	892	854	1,034	980	736	777	890	945	963
1951 Mar. Qtr.	1,051	908	783	892	848	1,032	980	735	773	890	945	962
,, June ,,	1,051	908	783	892	848	1,032	980	736	775	890	945	963
,, Sept. ,,	1,053	908	785	892	858	1,034	980	736	780	890	945	963
,, Dec. ,,	1,056	908	785	892	861	1,036	980	736	780	890	945	963
GROUPS I.-II.—FOOD, GROCERIES, AND HOUSING.												
Nov. 1914 ..	680	..	..	..	..	..	613	..	..	..	..	..
,, 1921 ..	977	944	825	926	815	965	895	769	780	844	855	876
Year 1939 ..	972	934	970	942	900	969	945	849	851	917	940	938
,, 1944 ..	1,030	987	1,055	999	951	1,026	1,017	907	923	958	995	1,009
,, 1945 ..	1,036	989	1,073	997	958	1,032	1,022	912	926	957	1,008	1,013
,, 1946 ..	1,038	990	1,073	996	966	1,034	1,019	917	928	961	1,020	1,011
,, 1947 ..	1,082	1,035	1,110	1,030	1,006	1,078	1,054	950	952	1,012	1,042	1,046
,, 1948 ..	1,173	1,129	1,206	1,130	1,102	1,169	1,154	1,052	1,048	1,116	1,134	1,146
,, 1949 ..	1,252	1,205	1,333	1,225	1,190	1,249	1,243	1,141	1,140	1,204	1,212	1,235
,, 1950 ..	1,365	1,309	1,459	1,341	1,313	1,362	1,357	1,254	1,267	1,318	1,342	1,350
,, 1951 ..	1,686	1,672	1,715	1,682	1,619	1,685	1,652	1,593	1,543	1,633	1,657	1,646
1951 Mar. Qtr.	1,520	1,510	1,589	1,498	1,473	1,520	1,499	1,389	1,395	1,465	1,491	1,491
,, June ,,	1,591	1,587	1,641	1,606	1,520	1,591	1,603	1,559	1,470	1,618	1,583	1,598
,, Sept. ,,	1,763	1,733	1,734	1,764	1,687	1,760	1,703	1,669	1,603	1,686	1,734	1,699
,, Dec. ,,	1,871	1,857	1,897	1,861	1,797	1,870	1,801	1,756	1,703	1,763	1,818	1,796

(a) *See* footnote (a) on page 10. (b) *See* footnote (b) on page 10.

"B" Series Retail Price Index-Numbers: Thirty Towns—*continued.*

(Base of each Group (a): Weighted Average of Six Capital Cities, 1923–27 = 1,000.)

Period.	QUEENSLAND.						SOUTH AUSTRALIA.					
	Brisbane.	Toowoomba.	Rockhampton.	Townsville.	Bundaberg.	Weighted Average, 5 Towns.	Adelaide.	Kadina, Moonta and Wallaroo.	Port Pirie.	Mt. Gambier.	Peterborough.	Weighted Average, 5 Towns.
GROUP I.—FOOD AND GROCERIES.												
Nov. 1914 ..	614	..	..	..	..	..	683	..	..	..	..	..
,, 1921 ..	955	895	949	981*b*	936*c*	950	941	945	968	923	997	943
Year 1939 ..	864	823	904	961	912	872	897	973	996	937	981	904
,, 1944 ..	965	1,003	1,002	1,049	1,027	977	993	1,030	1,061	996	1,033	997
,, 1945 ..	966	1,009	1,016	1,055	1,025	980	1,002	1,034	1,074	1,014	1,054	1,006
,, 1946 ..	981	1,018	1,016	1,071	1,039	993	1,006	1,049	1,079	1,027	1,056	1,011
,, 1947 ..	1,055	1,092	1,097	1,148	1,112	1,068	1,067	1,103	1,141	1,071	1,117	1,071
,, 1948 ..	1,208	1,228	1,244	1,295	1,255	1,219	1,230	1,234	1,294	1,220	1,269	1,233
,, 1949 ..	1,332	1,358	1,373	1,442	1,383	1,346	1,351	1,386	1,422	1,332	1,393	1,355
,, 1950 ..	1,462	1,480	1,523	1,560	1,515	1,476	1,494	1,531	1,585	1,557	1,524	1,500
,, 1951 ..	1,823	1,859	1,913	1,941	1,881	1,842	1,931	1,948	2,035	2,108	1,974	1,939
1951 Mar. Qtr.	1,610	1,640	1,725	1,700	1,701	1,629	1,684	1,709	1,780	1,856	1,698	1,691
,, June ,,	1,690	1,722	1,801	1,787	1,773	1,709	1,842	1,803	1,886	2,028	1,850	1,845
,, Sept. ,,	1,847	1,904	1,931	1,996	1,909	1,869	2,024	2,070	2,193	2,213	2,113	2,036
,, Dec. ,,	2,145	2,169	2,194	2,281	2,142	2,159	2,175	2,209	2,281	2,335	2,235	2,183
1951.												
January ..	1,585	1,613	1,708	1,674	1,680	1,605	1,648	1,684	1,759	1,823	1,676	1,656
February ..	1,620	1,651	1,729	1,712	1,707	1,639	1,687	1,706	1,771	1,836	1,691	1,692
March ..	1,625	1,655	1,737	1,714	1,716	1,644	1,716	1,738	1,810	1,909	1,728	1,723
April ..	1,669	1,694	1,775	1,766	1,748	1,688	1,790	1,754	1,827	1,973	1,755	1,793
May ..	1,675	1,718	1,791	1,774	1,761	1,696	1,845	1,792	1,870	2,031	1,831	1,847
June ..	1,725	1,754	1,836	1,821	1,809	1,744	1,890	1,863	1,960	2,080	1,964	1,895
July ..	1,781	1,842	1,882	1,877	1,848	1,801	1,958	2,005	2,100	2,159	2,086	1,969
August ..	1,811	1,872	1,898	2,004	1,875	1,836	2,004	2,068	2,209	2,203	2,067	2,017
September ..	1,950	1,998	2,014	2,107	2,004	1,970	2,111	2,137	2,270	2,278	2,187	2,121
October ..	2,054	2,087	2,121	2,209	2,111	2,073	2,169	2,211	2,271	2,295	2,260	2,176
November ..	2,252	2,213	2,239	2,369	2,120	2,252	2,134	2,184	2,268	2,337	2,208	2,144
December ..	2,129	2,207	2,223	2,266	2,194	2,153	2,223	2,232	2,305	2,373	2,238	2,229
GROUP II.—HOUSING (4 AND 5-ROOMED HOUSES).(*d*)												
Nov. 1914 ..	463	..	..	..	..	..	611	..	..	..	..	..
,, 1921 ..	629	547	470	528*b*	535*c*	594	819	566	603	492	566	781
Year 1939 ..	854	847	753	861	640	840	888	388	710	686	753	862
,, 1944 ..	863	859	767	865	672	850	892	385	713	715	754	866
,, 1945 ..	863	861	768	865	674	851	892	386	713	715	755	866
,, 1946 ..	863	862	773	866	681	851	894	390	712	716	755	867
,, 1947 ..	864	864	780	866	682	853	897	398	711	718	755	870
,, 1948 ..	866	874	785	866	685	855	903	402	710	718	757	876
,, 1949 ..	869	883	796	867	689	859	912	407	710	722	762	885
,, 1950 ..	883	904	823	868	704	874	929	407	712	731	764	900
,, 1951 ..	934	945	849	887	727	919	949	529	731	756	779	924
1951 Mar. Qtr.	920	943	838	868	722	906	938	451	714	734	779	910
,, June ,,	931	946	849	880	722	916	945	451	714	734	779	916
,, Sept. ,,	936	946	852	880	722	921	954	607	747	775	779	932
,, Dec. ,,	947	946	855	918	743	933	960	607	750	779	779	937
GROUPS I.–II.—FOOD, GROCERIES AND HOUSING.												
Nov. 1914 ..	560	..	..	..	..	..	658	..	..	..	..	..
,, 1921 ..	840	771	779	820*b*	704*c*	824	898	811	839	770	844	885
Year 1939 ..	858	830	843	920	804	858	891	743	882	838	890	885
,, 1944 ..	923	945	908	975	886	926	951	776	923	884	922	944
,, 1945 ..	924	949	917	979	886	928	957	779	931	895	935	949
,, 1946 ..	932	955	919	989	897	936	960	790	933	903	936	952
,, 1947 ..	978	1,001	971	1,036	942	982	998	825	971	931	973	990
,, 1948 ..	1,072	1,087	1,063	1,125	1,030	1,074	1,100	907	1,063	1,022	1,067	1,091
,, 1949 ..	1,149	1,170	1,145	1,214	1,110	1,153	1,177	1,001	1,141	1,091	1,144	1,168
,, 1950 ..	1,233	1,252	1,247	1,286	1,195	1,238	1,270	1,089	1,241	1,232	1,224	1,262
,, 1951 ..	1,472	1,498	1,493	1,525	1,427	1,478	1,544	1,390	1,522	1,576	1,504	1,538
1951 Mar. Qtr.	1,337	1,364	1,375	1,372	1,315	1,343	1,389	1,215	1,360	1,414	1,336	1,382
,, June ,,	1,390	1,416	1,425	1,429	1,359	1,396	1,488	1,272	1,424	1,519	1,428	1,479
,, Sept. ,,	1,488	1,526	1,506	1,556	1,442	1,495	1,603	1,495	1,624	1,647	1,588	1,600
,, Dec. ,,	1,673	1,687	1,667	1,744	1,591	1,676	1,696	1,579	1,679	1,723	1,662	1,692

(*a*) *See* footnote (*a*) on page 10. (*b*) Charters Towers. (*c*) Warwick. (*d*) *See* footnote (*b*) on page 10.

§ 8. Retail Price Index-Numbers, 200 Towns.

To supplement the information collected monthly for the 30 towns specified in the preceding pages, a special investigation into prices in 70 additional towns was undertaken in November, 1913. This investigation was repeated in November, 1914, and again in November, 1915, when the number of additional towns was increased to 120. In November, 1923, the number was further increased to 170. Information in regard to prices obtained in November of each of the years 1923 to 1942 related, therefore, to 200 towns. After 1942, collection of returns of these prices was discontinued. The results of the first investigation were published in Labour Bulletin No. 5 (pp. 26–33), and details respecting succeeding investigations were incorporated in the Labour Bulletins and Reports issued subsequently by this Bureau.

§ 9. Changes in the Regimen.

1. **General.**—Since the original compilation of retail price indexes by the Bureau in 1912, the regimens of the several Groups and Sections have undergone some modifications, with the object of improving the indexes as measures of the variations in retail prices in individual towns, as between the many towns covered, and in the weighted average of all towns or the various combinations thereof. These modifications are briefly as follows:—

(i) *Food and Groceries.*—The regimen for food and groceries, originally introduced in 1912, was based upon the relative consumption of the years 1906 to 1910, and the first revision was made in September Quarter, 1932 and was based on the relative consumption of the years 1927 to 1929. The regimen in use up to that date will be found on page 13 of Labour Report No. 23. A second revision took place in September Quarter, 1936, as part of the general revision of the regimen by the Conference of Statisticians of April, 1936. The main features of this revision are referred to in para. 2 below.

(ii) *Housing.*—The housing constituent of the regimen has also been revised. Originally the rentals of all houses from "3 rooms and under" to "8 rooms and over" were tabulated, and they were continuously used in the "A" Series Index (food and rent of all houses) from 1912 to 30th June, 1938, when this series was discontinued. They were also used in the "C" Series Index up to and including the year 1924. From the following year rentals of 4 and 5-roomed houses only were used in the "C" Series Index, and in the same year they were combined with food and groceries to form the "B" Series Index.

Following on the resolutions of the 1936 Conference of Statisticians (*see* para. 2 below), the rentals of 4 and 5-roomed houses in each of the six capital cities and "second" important town in each of the States (excepting Western Australia) have been determined on a somewhat different basis (for convenience designated the "Census" basis) from that previously used. For the six capital cities, this base was introduced into the indexes at the December Quarter, 1936, and for the "second" towns at the March Quarter, 1937. The basis adopted was that of the average rents, as disclosed by the 1933 Census, of 4 and 5-roomed houses occupied by fully-employed wage and salary earners in all industrial groups with the exception of "Fishing and Trapping," "Agricultural, Pastoral and Dairying" and

"B" Series Retail Price Index-Numbers: Thirty Towns—*continued.*

(Base of each Group (a): Weighted Average of Six Capital Cities, 1923-27 = 1,000.)

Period.	WESTERN AUSTRALIA.						TASMANIA.						Weighted Average, Six Capital Cities.	Weighted Average, 30 Towns, Australia.
	Perth and Fremantle.	Kalgoorlie and Boulder.	Northam.	Bunbury.	Geraldton.	Weighted Average, 5 Towns.	Hobart.	Launceston.	Burnie.	Devonport.	Queenstown.	Weighted Average, 5 Towns.		
GROUP I.—FOOD AND GROCERIES.														
Nov. 1914 ..	740	..	..	..	..	..	687	..	..	..	..	..	641	..
,, 1921 ..	1,005	1,120	1,054*b*	1,049	1,031	1,033	1,027	958	1,108*c*	996*d*	1,077	1,011	9 0	954
Year 1939 ..	938	1,092	972	967	947	951	923	914	941	933	1,018	925	927	931
,, 1944 ..	1,056	1,180	1,066	1,036	1,095	1,066	1,035	988	1,030	1,020	1,135	1,023	1,026	1,029
,, 1945 ..	1,060	1,191	1,069	1,045	1,084	1,070	1,043	999	1,024	1,026	1,153	1,032	1,034	1,037
,, 1946 ..	1,059	1,192	1,073	1,057	1,084	1,070	1,069	1,018	1,048	1,052	1,173	1,055	1,036	1,040
,, 1947 ..	1,104	1,239	1,125	1,109	1,133	1,115	1,132	1,092	1,108	1,112	1,233	1,121	1,100	1,104
,, 1948 ..	1,251	1,387	1,272	1,257	1,279	1,262	1,316	1,273	1,276	1,280	1,407	1,303	1,256	1,260
,, 1949 ..	1,437	1,572	1,455	1,443	1,471	1,448	1,495	1,459	1,469	1,473	1,560	1,484	1,394	1,399
,, 1950 ..	1,597	1,728	1,613	1,610	1,636	1,608	1,574	1,534	1,582	1,612	1,613	1,565	1,566	1,570
,, 1951 ..	1,963	2,105	1,995	1,991	2,033	1,976	1,992	2,026	1,999	2,025	2,064	2,007	2,041	2,046
1951 Mar. Qtr.	1,795	1,922	1,814	1,805	1,849	1,805	1,715	1,720	1,731	1,777	1,737	1,721	1,790	1,795
,, June ,,	1,904	2,055	1,938	1,931	1,972	1,918	1,892	1,896	1,847	1,873	1,877	1,891	1,925	1,931
,, Sept. ,,	2,019	2,158	2,051	2,051	2,093	2,032	2,109	2,207	2,141	2,175	2,253	2,149	2,136	2,141
,, Dec. ,,	2,134	2,286	2,175	2,178	2,216	2,148	2,252	2,282	2,276	2,276	2,390	2,268	2,311	2,317
1951.														
January ..	1,739	1,887	1,780	1,771	1,807	1,752	1,707	1,676	1,718	1,764	1,724	1,701	1,756	1,759
February ..	1,798	1,917	1,816	1,808	1,845	1,808	1,707	1,689	1,726	1,780	1,728	1,706	1,792	1,797
March ..	1,847	1,961	1,846	1,837	1,895	1,856	1,732	1,795	1,748	1,786	1,760	1,756	1,822	1,829
April ..	1,886	2,031	1,914	1,901	1,950	1,898	1,851	1,867	1,804	1,846	1,821	1,853	1,882	1,888
May ..	1,908	2,057	1,943	1,940	1,973	1,922	1,898	1,893	1,816	1,870	1,892	1,893	1,911	1,918
June ..	1,919	2,076	1,957	1,951	1,993	1,933	1,928	1,929	1,920	1,902	1,917	1,927	1,983	1,986
July ..	1,990	2,136	2,025	2,017	2,062	2,003	2,032	2,138	2,027	2,063	2,134	2,070	2,073	2,075
August ..	2,020	2,159	2,048	2,052	2,088	2,033	2,095	2,179	2,116	2,192	2,201	2,131	2,135	2,138
September ..	2,048	2,178	2,080	2,085	2,128	2,061	2,200	2,304	2,280	2,271	2,423	2,247	2,200	2,206
October ..	2,097	2,235	2,124	2,128	2,170	2,110	2,225	2,284	2,234	2,247	2,367	2,250	2,252	2,257
November ..	2,104	2,251	2,135	2,148	2,175	2,117	2,253	2,284	2,257	2,280	2,381	2,269	2,346	2,351
December ..	2,200	2,371	2,266	2,258	2,304	2,217	2,277	2,277	2,336	2,301	2,423	2,285	2,336	2,342
GROUP II.—HOUSING (4 AND 5-ROOMED HOUSES).(*e*)														
Nov. 1914 ..	586	..	..	..	..	..	525	..	..	..	..	..	649	..
,, 1921 ..	754	578	616*b*	649	779	709	870	676	294*c*	150*d*	495	729	877	823
Year 1939 ..	881	1,318	886	1,005	1,064	919	925	851	836	763	806	887	965	947
,, 1944 ..	886	1,036	899	974	1,059	902	932	861	850	770	804	895	976	956
,, 1945 ..	886	1,037	899	975	1,061	902	933	862	851	770	804	896	975	956
,, 1946 ..	886	1,055	900	980	1,064	904	936	864	853	770	809	898	976	957
,, 1947 ..	887	1,080	900	981	1,064	907	936	866	853	770	814	899	977	958
,, 1948 ..	889	1,082	917	985	1,066	910	937	871	853	770	815	901	979	960
,, 1949 ..	895	1,095	956	1,005	1,080	917	940	873	853	773	817	904	982	964
,, 1950 ..	901	1,126	967	1,028	1,094	926	941	876	855	778	818	906	987	968
,, 1951 ..	1,065	1,180	1,182	1,201	1,309	1,083	1,048	1,031	987	873	851	1,025	1,009	992
1951 Mar. Qtr.	1,051	1,143	1,179	1,166	1,303	1,068	1,028	1,027	977	850	851	1,011	1,004	987
,, June ,,	1,062	1,191	1,179	1,173	1,304	1,081	1,051	1,031	982	876	851	1,027	1,007	990
,, Sept. ,,	1,072	1,191	1,185	1,235	1,311	1,091	1,056	1,032	995	883	851	1,031	1,010	993
,, Dec. ,,	1,073	1,195	1,185	1,231	1,317	1,092	1,057	1,032	995	883	851	1,031	1,013	996
GROUPS I.–II.—FOOD, GROCERIES AND HOUSING.														
Nov. 1914 ..	689	..	..	..	..	..	630	..	..	..	..	..	644	..
,, 1921 ..	916	928	898*b*	907	942	918	971	858	819*c*	696*d*	871	911	924	907
Year 1939 ..	914	1,178	936	979	990	936	922	887	898	865	933	908	939	935
,, 1944 ..	987	1,121	999	1,010	1,079	1,000	992	936	958	920	1,004	970	1,004	998
,, 1945 ..	990	1,128	1,001	1,015	1,072	1,002	998	943	954	924	1,014	977	1,009	1,003
,, 1946 ..	989	1,136	1,003	1,024	1,073	1,003	1,014	956	969	939	1,028	992	1,010	1,005
,, 1947 ..	1,017	1,174	1,034	1,056	1,103	1,031	1,053	1,001	1,006	976	1,067	1,032	1,050	1,045
,, 1948 ..	1,107	1,266	1,131	1,148	1,193	1,122	1,165	1,113	1,108	1,078	1,173	1,143	1,145	1,140
,, 1949 ..	1,222	1,382	1,257	1,269	1,315	1,237	1,275	1,227	1,225	1,197	1,267	1,254	1,230	1,226
,, 1950 ..	1,322	1,480	1,358	1,380	1,421	1,338	1,324	1,274	1,295	1,283	1,299	1,304	1,336	1,332
,, 1951 ..	1,608	1,739	1,673	1,679	1,746	1,623	1,620	1,634	1,600	1,571	1,586	1,620	1,634	1,630
1951 Mar. Qtr.	1,501	1,613	1,562	1,552	1,632	1,514	1,444	1,446	1,433	1,411	1,388	1,440	1,480	1,476
,, June ,,	1,572	1,713	1,638	1,631	1,707	1,587	1,560	1,555	1,505	1,480	1,472	1,550	1,563	1,559
,, Sept. ,,	1,645	1,776	1,709	1,728	1,783	1,661	1,694	1,744	1,689	1,666	1,701	1,708	1,692	1,688
,, Dec. ,,	1,715	1,855	1,784	1,804	1,861	1,731	1,781	1,789	1,771	1,728	1,784	1,780	1,800	1,797

(*a*) *See* footnote (*a*) on page 10. (*b*) Midland Junction. (*c*) Zeehan. (*d*) Beaconsfield. (*e*) *See* footnote (*b*) on page 10.

"Forestry," brought up to the above-mentioned quarters by applying the percentage variations in rent since the 1933 Census shown for corresponding houses at both periods in the rent rolls of the house-agents. At the same time, these rent rolls were carefully revised, after personal inspection of all houses included, to ensure a satisfactory "sample" of houses upon which to measure rent variations in future. Thus, the rent levels having been established for the towns in question, the rent rolls ceased to be used for the determination of the average rent from quarter to quarter, and were used only for the purpose of measuring the percentage variations from quarter to quarter by means of corresponding houses in the rolls for the current and the preceding quarter—the percentage variations being applied progressively to the basic averages from the 1933 Census, as explained above. The new standard, so far as the towns in question are concerned, affected the indexes only in respect of the relative levels of rents in the different towns, and in respect of their absolute height.

The "Census" basis not being generally applicable to the circumstances of small provincial towns, on account of the great diversity of average "quality" of houses, the levels, as previously determined from a sample of houses selected by the house agents in accordance with definite standards originally laid down, were continued in the indexes until such time as the rent rolls were completely revised on the basis mentioned above. The revision was completed by June Quarter, 1939, but in the meantime as each town was completed the rent level then reached on the old basis was established as the base to which the percentage variations disclosed by the rent rolls were progressively applied thereafter.

(iii) *Clothing and Miscellaneous.*—The regimen for clothing and miscellaneous household requirements was originally introduced in 1921, and the first revision was made in March Quarter, 1935. Details of the original regimen were not published, but the revised regimen of 1935 appeared in Labour Report No. 26. A second revision took place in September Quarter, 1936, as part of the general revision of the regimen by the Conference of Statisticians of April, 1936. The main features of this revision are referred to in para. 2 below. Some minor alterations have since been made in the regimen.

2. **Revision of 1936.**—The revision of the regimen by the Conference of Statisticians of April, 1936, was of a comprehensive nature. The Resolutions of the Conference are reprinted in Appendix XI. of Labour Report No. 27. This Conference not only recommended extensive revisions of the regimen from which the indexes are compiled, but also considered methods of collection and compilation. As a result of its deliberations, and subsequent discussions by correspondence, many improvements and refinements were introduced.

The changes in the regimen made by this Conference comprised chiefly the elimination or replacement of articles no longer in demand, or which experience had shown to be unsuitable media for the measurement of price variations; the alteration of units of quantity in certain cases to conform with those in most general use; the adjustment of the mass unit allotted to certain articles to bring them into accord with present-day consumption habits; and the re-adjustment of the population and household weights applicable to the several groups and sections of the regimen in accordance with the results of the 1933 Census. Definite grades or qualities were also established for each article in the regimen, to ensure that quotations should be given, as far as possible, for the same article at all times and in

all places, and expert field officers were appointed to collect, personally, prices to the standard qualities laid down. Improved methods of collecting and weighting average house rentals were also adopted (*see* para. 1 (ii) above).

3. **Method of Effecting Changes.**—Changes of the nature mentioned are commonly made in price indexes without seriously impairing their continuity. In accordance with established principles of procedure in changing the regimen (*see* Labour Report No. 9, Appendix I., Part II., paras. 14 and 18), the general level of the index is taken as determined by the old regimen for the quarter in which the change is made, and the new regimen is used to measure variations in the price level after that date. The linking up of the index-numbers on the old and the new basis is effected by the usual method of equating the respective weighted aggregate costs of the old and the new regimens in the six capital cities.

There are two methods of effecting this, as follows:—Up to June Quarter, 1942, all such changes were made by equating the new aggregate of the section embodying the changes to the former aggregate. This course was adopted when items were added to or omitted from the regimen, and when a change was made in the standard of any item. From September Quarter, 1942, however, all changes of standard were effected by an appropriate adjustment of the "mass unit" or "weight" so as to preserve the percentage weight which the item carried in the aggregate from time to time, and wherever possible the "weight" of any item dropped from the regimen was transferred to an article of a similar nature which would serve as a more appropriate medium for the measurement of the variations of the article dropped than the remaining items of the section, the "mass units" of which under the former procedure in effect were proportionately increased to carry the aggregate of the item dropped, or reduced to admit a new item added. (*See also* para. 3 on pages 15 and 16.)

4. **Continuity of Indexes.**—While the above involves no break of continuity in the index-numbers for the six capital cities as a whole, upon the basis of which all such changes are effected, slight alterations of the relative positions of individual towns are inevitable on account of the alteration of former standards. The effect, however, is more noticeable in the group index-numbers than in those covering a combination of groups, wherein the losses and gains tend to balance out. Thus, in comparing group index-numbers for individual towns in respect of periods including the dates of change referred to in paras. 1 to 3 above, the following considerations should be kept in mind:—

(*a*) *Food and Groceries.*—These index-numbers are substantially comparable throughout the period up to June Quarter, 1936. From and including September Quarter, 1936 the index-numbers for individual towns are comparable with each other, but are not strictly so with those for previous quarters.

(*b*) *Housing.*—No change was ever made in the method of calculating the rentals of "All Houses", and consequently these index-numbers were comparable throughout the whole period of their existence.* In regard to rentals of houses of 4 and 5 rooms, however, the index-numbers for individual towns are comparable with each other up to June Quarter, 1936. In September

* The tabulation of the "A" Series Index, for which these rents were used, was discontinued after the issue for June Quarter, 1938.

Quarter, 1936, a change was made in the methods of averaging and weighting the data from house-agents, which gave rise to slight disparities not due to rental fluctuations, and rendered the rent figures for individual towns not strictly comparable with those of former periods. The change, however, thereafter made the index-numbers for any one town more comparable with those of other towns. In December Quarter, 1936, the rent tabulations in the two principal towns of each State were placed on an entirely new basis, which rendered them incomparable individually with average rents of previous periods. This change was also introduced with the object of making the index-numbers for the principal towns more comparable *inter se* in any given quarter (*see* para. 1 (ii) above).

(c) *Clothing and Miscellaneous.*—The index-numbers for individual towns up to and including 1934 are comparable with those for previous periods. Those for 1935, and the March and June quarters of 1936, are comparable for those periods, but not with the index-numbers of former or subsequent periods. From and including September Quarter, 1936 the index-numbers for individual towns are substantially comparable with each other, both from quarter to quarter and from town to town, but for individual towns they are not strictly continuous with those of previous periods.

5. **The Regimen under War Conditions.**—Between the comprehensive revision of 1936 and the outbreak of war in 1939 changes in conditions did not require any appreciable revision of the regimen or mass units of items therein. The adjustments made in 1936 had brought the basis of the index "up-to-date" in the sense that it conformed reasonably closely to normal pre-war usage. Although the effects of the war produced some variations from normal consumption in 1940 and 1941, it was not until 1942 (as explained in § 2 (5) of this Chapter) that fundamental changes began to occur. As there explained, the years 1942, 1943 and 1944 produced temporary changes of a far-reaching character which, if permanent and stable, must have necessitated fundamental re-adjustments in the regimen and mass units of the index. But the resultant changes in the index would have been so extensive as virtually to create a new index which would not have been continuously comparable with the "C" Series Index as compiled either pre-war or post-war. Consideration of the matter led to the conclusions—

(i) that it was desirable to continue the "C" Series Index substantially on its pre-war regimen in order to ensure continuity of comparison of price movements on a clearly defined basis;

(ii) that it was impossible to reconstruct the "C" Series Index to take account of recurrent temporary departures from normal consumption.

6. **The Regimen since 1945.**—The "C" Series Retail Price Index was reviewed at conferences of the Commonwealth and State Statisticians in 1949 and 1950. The resolutions of the 1949 Conference were reprinted on page 157 of Labour Report No. 38. Those of the 1950 Conference were reprinted on page 161 of Labour Report No. 39.* The Conference of British Commonwealth Statisticians held in Canberra in November, 1951 considered the

* Resolution (*g*) of the 1950 Conference concerning the price of milk has not yet been applied, and is the subject of further enquiry during which movement in the price of this item is taken into account on a basis consistent with that applying since 1936.

subject of Retail Price Indexes more widely and paragraphs 57 to 79 of the Report of that Conference on this subject are reproduced as Section V. of the Appendix to this Report (*see* page 160).

In connexion with these conferences and subsequent to them, the components and construction of the "C" Series Index have been the subject of close examination by the Commonwealth Statistician with the assistance of State Statisticians. No post-war normal pattern of consumer expenditure has yet emerged. On the contrary, some marked short-term variations in the pattern continued into 1952. Consequently the weights in the Index have not been revised nor has the list of items in it been extended. Since 1948, however, prices have been regularly collected for about 100 additional items not included in the Index, and more recently prices have been collected for more than one type of the main items in the clothing group of the Index. Concurrently estimates of consumption of individual items of food have been made annually (and in some cases quarterly) and annual and quarterly data as to aggregate retail sales, by groups of items, have been recorded.

Checks and test indexes made on the basis of these data indicate that the aggregate "C" Series Retail Price Index has remained reasonably reliable within its definition. The group indexes may require qualification in some instances in respect of short-term comparisons. Preliminary action has been taken towards compilation of a broadly based consumer type of retail price index along the lines discussed at the Conference of British Commonwealth Statisticians.

§ 10. Retail Price Indexes and Basic Wage Variations.

Two distinct procedures are adopted by the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration in fixing and varying basic or living wages as follows:—

(i) the Court periodically *fixes* the amount of wage in the light of evidence submitted by parties appearing before it. Such evidence usually covers a wide range of facts as to economic conditions;

(ii) having determined the amount of basic wage the Court further determines whether or not it shall be subject to automatic adjustment for changes in price level and, if so, by what method such *variation* shall be made. This again is decided in the light of evidence and of representations by the parties concerned.

The "C" Series Index is used by the Court to derive the "Court" series of retail price index-numbers upon which the basic portion* of the wages prescribed in awards is *varied* automatically for changes in price levels quarterly, half-yearly or yearly. These are commonly referred to as "cost of living adjustments" although in fact they relate only to that part of the *change in cost of living* which is due to variations in prices. The Court itself determines from time to time at public sittings the amount of the basic wage, having regard to evidence submitted in relation to other aspects of "cost of living" and other relevant considerations. In fixing the amount of the basic wage the Court does not have regard to either the regimen used in compiling the retail price index or the cost of such regimen. The regimen of the index would not be suited to such a purpose.

The considerations upon which the basic wage is fixed are set out in successive judgments of the Court and briefly summarized in Chapter III (§ 4) of this Report. On this matter, reference should be made to the

* The "needs" portion only was adjustable from July, 1937 to December, 1950.

Basic Wage Judgments of the Court, particularly those of 1934, 1937, 1941 and 1950*, and to the general statement of principles set out in the judgment on the "Munition Workers' Case" of 1943.† Certain State industrial tribunals use the index-numbers directly for automatic or quasi-automatic adjustment of the rates of wages determined by them as tribunals, while some State tribunals have regard to the index-numbers and other factors in considering what "cost of living" variations they should make in rates of wages.

The use of indexes by industrial authorities for purposes of adjusting rates of wages for changes in price level is a practice of long standing, dating in the case of the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration, for example, back to the year 1913. The tribunals form their own judgment as to the relevance of the indexes to their purposes, and periodically hear the representatives of employers and employees on the issues involved, including questions as to whether the index is satisfactory for the purposes to which it is applied by the tribunal. In such proceedings the Statistician or his officers are called at times as witnesses on questions of fact and technical matters relating to the indexes.

The automatic adjustments in wages prescribed in awards of the Court on the basis of retail price index-numbers are sometimes referred to as "cost of living adjustments" and the index is popularly referred to as a "cost of living index". This at times creates misconceptions as to the nature of the retail price index since the term "cost of living" connotes not only change in cost of living due to changes in prices, but also changes in cost of living due to changes in standard of living. Beyond that, use of the term "cost of living" index sometimes creates the erroneous impression that the retail price index purports to embrace all that should be included in a desirable standard of living. As pointed out in para. 4, page 3 of this chapter, the "C" Series Index is a retail price index of specific meaning. As there indicated the regimen or list of items, on which the index is based, is representative of a high proportion of the expenditure of wage-earner households. While this statement remains broadly true, it relates (in the circumstances of 1951 and 1952) more specifically to what may be termed the basic wage portion of wage-earner expenditures. The index has hitherto been used by industrial tribunals to provide automatic adjustments in the basic wage itself and, until December, 1950, in a basic wage which did not vary very much in real terms of purchasing power in relation to "C" Series units. In 1950 and especially in 1951 various factors produced both a steep rise in prices and an increasingly wide dispersion of price movements as affecting consumer expenditures on items within and without the index. Although the rise in some prices became less accentuated in 1952, disparate price movements continued. There arose concurrently a tendency to assume, without inquiry, that the index (constructed primarily to measure the incidence of price changes on expenditures from incomes at or about basic wage level) is equally applicable to such diverse matters as measuring the changing incidence of price variations on secondary or marginal portions of wages, on total wages or on total incomes in groups considerably higher than the basic wage, and even on money settlements in some business transactions. While such assumptions may be reasonably reliable during periods in which all prices tend to move together, they should not be made at any time without due inquiry and particularly not in periods when price movements are very marked and are subject to wide dispersion.

* 33 C.A.R., p. 144; 37 C.A.R., p. 583; 44 C.A.R., p. 41; 68 C.A.R., p. 698. † 50 C.A.R., p. 101.

The following is a brief statement of the indexes considered or used by the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration from time to time :—

(i) *"A" Series Index.*—The "A" Series Index covers food and groceries and the rent of all houses, with the year 1911 as the base (1,000). This index was first compiled in 1912, and is available yearly for the six capital cities from 1901 to 1911, and quarterly for 30 important towns of Australia from 1912 to June Quarter, 1938, after which it was discontinued.

The Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration adopted this Index in 1913 to determine the *relative* basic wage for towns throughout Australia, and to vary what is popularly known as the "Harvester" Basic Wage of 1907—the wage (42s. per week for Melbourne) declared by Mr. Justice Higgins to be sufficient to meet the "normal needs of the average employee, regarded as a human being, living in a civilized community." For this purpose the base index-number (1,000) of the series was selected by the Court as equivalent to a basic wage of 48s. per week. This index had very little application after May, 1933, because of the adoption by the Court successively of the "D" Series Index at that date, the "C" Series Index in May, 1934, and the "Court" Series Index in July, 1937.

(ii) *"B" Series Index.*—The "B" Series Index covers food and groceries and rent of 4 and 5-roomed houses, with the prices ruling in the years 1923–1927 as the base (1,000), and is actually the food and rent constituent of the "C" Series Index described in (iii) below. This index was first compiled in 1925, and is available for the six capital cities for the years 1907 and 1911, and for the month of November of the years 1914 to 1920, and quarterly thereafter for the 30 important towns of Australia. It was designed to replace the "A" Series Index but was never used in connexion with the adjustment of wages by Industrial Tribunals. This series appears on pages 28 to 31 of this Report.

(iii) *"C" Series Index.*—The "C" Series Index covers food and groceries; rent of 4 and 5-roomed houses; clothing (man, wife and three children); household drapery, household utensils, fuel, lighting and other miscellaneous items, with the prices ruling in the years 1923–1927 as the base (1,000). The regimen is published in full on pages 11 to 13 of this Report.

This index was constructed as the result of the recommendations of the Royal Commission on the Basic Wage, 1920, and the regimen adopted was substantially that of the "Indicator" Lists of the Commission with periodical adjustments as explained in this chapter. It was first compiled in 1921 and is available for the month of November for the six capital cities for the years 1914 to 1921, quarterly for these cities from June Quarter, 1922, and quarterly for the 30 important towns from March Quarter, 1925 to date.

The index was not used in connexion with the variation of wages until its partial adoption by the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration in May, 1933, when the Court introduced the "D" Series Index explained below. In its judgment of 17th April, 1934, the Court adopted as from 1st May, 1934, the "C" Series Index as the sole basis for the adjustment of the wages declared in the judgment, for which purpose the Court equated a "needs" basic wage of 81s. per week to the base index-number (1923–27 = 1,000) of the series. In its judgment of 23rd June, 1937, the Court adopted this index as the basis of the "Court" Index (First Series) for the adjustment of the "needs" portion of the Court's new basic wage (*see* (vii) below).

(iv) *"D" Series Index.*—The "D" Series Index is a combination of the "A" and "C" Series Indexes, and was introduced by the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration for the adjustment of wages of those employees who were subject to the full 10 per cent. reduction in real wages determined by the Court in January, 1931. It came into operation from 1st May, 1933.

The index had for its base the "A" Series Index for each town for December Quarter, 1929, which was varied according to the ratio of change indicated by the "C" Series index-number for the whole of 1929 and the corresponding "C" Series index-number of the town for the quarter for which the adjustment was to be made. It will thus be seen that, whereas the "D" Series Index for each town from December Quarter, 1929 fluctuated in the same way as the "C" Series Index for the same town, the relationship of different towns was that of the "A" Series Index for December Quarter, 1929, slightly modified by the difference in movement between the "A" Series and the "C" Series Indexes for each town since that quarter.

This Index was superseded as from 1st May, 1934, by the judgment of the Court referred to under "C" Series Index. The index-numbers of this series were published in Appendix VIII. of Labour Reports Nos. 24 to 27.

(v) *Food and Groceries.*—The regimen of food and groceries is a component part of each of the series of retail price index-numbers mentioned above. Details of the regimen will be found on page 11. This index was first compiled in 1912 and is available yearly for the six capital cities from 1901 to 1911 and monthly for the 30 important towns of Australia from 1912 to date. An index computed from the prices of food and groceries only was for a time used for the adjustment of old-age and invalid pensions, and also for the adjustment of the wages of members of the North Australian Workers' Union above the 20th parallel of South Latitude. Both these adjustments were later effected by means of the "C" Series Index, but the provisions for the adjustment of pensions were repealed as from 6th April, 1944.

(vi) *The "200 Towns" Series.*—This series was tabulated for the month of November each year in respect of 200 of the more important towns of the Commonwealth. Up to November, 1936, it covered the cost of food and groceries combined with the rent of 4 and of 5-roomed houses respectively, but thereafter the tabulation was limited to food and groceries only. This table has been used mostly in discussions of suitable relative rates for country towns, but the index-numbers have not been directly employed by industrial tribunals in this connexion. The base of this table is the weighted average cost of food and groceries in the six capital cities in 1923-27 = 1,000. This series was compiled for the month of November for each year from 1913 to 1942, when tabulation was discontinued. It was originally confined to 100 towns, but was increased to 150 in 1915, and 200 in 1923. A reference to these index-numbers will be found on page 32.

(vii) *The "Court" Index.*—The "Court" Index was created by the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration in its basic wage judgment of 23rd June, 1937, and operated from 1st July, 1937. Its purpose was to provide a set of index-numbers which would be published by, and under the direct control of, the Court. It was created primarily for the purpose of removing conditions which tended to engender the impression that the Commonwealth Statistician was in some way responsible for the fixation and adjustment of wage-rates. Its introduction has the

added advantage of enabling the index-numbers to be specially numbered in the manner most convenient for adjustment purposes, and of enabling the Statistician to change the base of his index-numbers without upsetting the wage and adjustment provisions of the Court's awards. There have been three Series of the " Court " Index and the base of each Series has been related to the " C " Series Index (Base 1923–27 = 1,000). For each Series this relationship has been so determined that the weekly amount in shillings of basic wage (" needs " basic wage in the case of the First and Second Series) as subsequently adjusted for changes in price level, shall equal the " Court " Series index-number according to which it is adjusted. (A " Court " Series index-number ending in .5 or more is regarded as the next higher number for this purpose).

Particulars of the three " Court " Index Series are as follows :—

(*a*) The " Court " Index (First Series) (Base 1923–27 = 81.0). This index operated from 1st July, 1937, and a description of its construction is given on page 36 of Labour Report No. 34.

(*b*) The "Court" Index (Second Series) (Base 1923–27 = 87.0). This index operated from 1st December, 1946, and a description of its construction is given on page 38 of Labour Report No. 38. For a table of index-numbers under this Series for 1950 *see* Section IV. of the Appendix to this Report.

(*c*) The " Court " Index (Third Series) (Base 1923–27 = 103.0). On 23rd November, 1950, the Court announced that the new basic wage (i.e., the " needs " portion plus a standardized " prosperity " loading plus an additional 20s.), to operate from the beginning of the first pay-period in December, 1950, would be adjustable, as from February, 1951, in accordance with the " Court " Index (Third Series). This " Court " Series is constructed (*see* (vii), page 81) by multiplying the " C " Series index-number (on 1923–27 base) by the factor 0.103. The result to the first decimal place (as it stands) is the corresponding " Court " (Third Series) index-number, which, as explained above, expresses in shillings the amount of basic wage as fixed by the Court for that index-number—with the proviso that any decimal point of .5 or more shall be regarded as the next higher number of shillings in the automatic adjustment scale. " Court " (Third Series) index-numbers are shown in Section IV. of the Appendix, and a " Ready Reckoner " for the weekly basic wage equivalents of " Court " (Third Series) and " C " Series index-numbers is shown at the end of the following section (*see* next page).

§ 11. Scales Used for Automatic Wage Adjustment.

The following table shows the automatic scales of quarterly, half-yearly or yearly adjustment adopted by the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration in accordance with its announcement of 23rd November, 1950. As indicated in the preceding section, this automatic adjustment scale is applied to an amount of basic wage fixed by the Court after hearing evidence and argument by representatives of employers and employees covering a wide range of relevant factors (primarily relating to " capacity of industry to pay " and general economic conditions). The amount of wage shown constitutes the basic wage payable.

Automatic Scales for Quarterly, Half-yearly or Yearly Adjustment of Basic Wage.*

(As adopted by Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration, 23rd November, 1950 and operative as from February, 1951.)

†Basis—

(*a*) "C" Series Index.—Index-number 1,000 (Base 1923–27) = 103s. per week (1s. = 9.708738), or £269 per annum (£1 = 3.717472).‡

(*b*) "Court" Index (Third Series).—"C" Series index-number 1,000 (Base 1923–27) = "Court" Index (Third Series) index-number 103.0. (One "C" Series "point" = 0.103.)

Index-number Divisions.		Wage per Week.			Index-number Divisions.		Wage per Week.		
"C" Series Index.	"Court" Index (Third Series).	£	*s.*	*d.*	"C" Series Index.	"Court" Index (Third Series).	£	*s.*	*d.*
1607–1616 ..	165.5–166.4	8	6	0	1957–1966 ..	201.5–202.4	10	2	0
1617–1626 ..	166.5–167.4	8	7	0	1967–1975 ..	202.6–203.4	10	3	0
1627–1635 ..	167.5–168.4	8	8	0	1976–1985 ..	203.5–204.4	10	4	0
1636–1645 ..	168.5–169.4	8	9	0	1986–1995 ..	204.5–205.4	10	5	0
1646–1655 ..	169.5–170.4	8	10	0	1996–2004 ..	205.5–206.4	10	6	0
1656–1665 ..	170.5–171.4	8	11	0	2005–2014 ..	206.5–207.4	10	7	0
1666–1674 ..	171.5–172.4	8	12	0	2015–2024 ..	207.5–208.4	10	8	0
1675–1684 ..	172.5–173.4	8	13	0	2025–2033 ..	208.5–209.3	10	9	0
1685–1694 ..	173.5–174.4	8	14	0	2034–2043 ..	209.5–210.4	10	10	0
1695–1703 ..	174.5–175.4	8	15	0	2044–2053 ..	210.5–211.4	10	11	0
1704–1713 ..	175.5–176.4	8	16	0	2054–2063 ..	211.5–212.4	10	12	0
1714–1723 ..	176.5–177.4	8	17	0	2064–2072 ..	212.5–213.4	10	13	0
1724–1733 ..	177.5–178.4	8	18	0	2073–2082 ..	213.5–214.4	10	14	0
1734–1742 ..	178.6–179.4	8	19	0	2083–2092 ..	214.5–215.4	10	15	0
1743–1752 ..	179.5–180.4	9	0	0	2093–2101 ..	215.5–216.4	10	16	0
1753–1762 ..	180.5–181.4	9	1	0	2102–2111 ..	216.5–217.4	10	17	0
1763–1771 ..	181.5–182.4	9	2	0	2112–2121 ..	217.5–218.4	10	18	0
1772–1781 ..	182.5–183.4	9	3	0	2122–2131 ..	218.5–219.4	10	19	0
1782–1791 ..	183.5–184.4	9	4	0	2132–2140 ..	219.5–220.4	11	0	0
1792–1800 ..	184.5–185.4	9	5	0	2141–2150 ..	220.5–221.4	11	1	0
1801–1810 ..	185.5–186.4	9	6	0	2151–2160 ..	221.5–222.4	11	2	0
1811–1820 ..	186.5–187.4	9	7	0	2161–2169 ..	222.5–223.4	11	3	0
1821–1830 ..	187.5–188.4	9	8	0	2170–2179 ..	223.5–224.4	11	4	0
1831–1839 ..	188.5–189.4	9	9	0	2180–2189 ..	224.5–225.4	11	5	0
1840–1849 ..	189.5–190.4	9	10	0	2190–2199 ..	225.5–226.4	11	6	0
1850–1859 ..	190.5–191.4	9	11	0	2200–2208 ..	226.6–227.4	11	7	0
1860–1868 ..	191.5–192.4	9	12	0	2209–2218 ..	227.5–228.4	11	8	0
1869–1878 ..	192.5–193.4	9	13	0	2219–2228 ..	228.5–229.4	11	9	0
1879–1888 ..	193.5–194.4	9	14	0	2229–2237 ..	229.5–230.4	11	10	0
1889–1898 ..	194.5–195.4	9	15	0	2238–2247 ..	230.5–231.4	11	11	0
1899–1907 ..	195.5–196.4	9	16	0	2248–2257 ..	231.5–232.4	11	12	0
1908–1917 ..	196.5–197.4	9	17	0	2258–2266 ..	232.5–233.3	11	13	0
1918–1927 ..	197.5–198.4	9	18	0	2267–2276 ..	233.5–234.4	11	14	0
1928–1936 ..	198.5–199.4	9	19	0	2277–2286 ..	234.5–235.4	11	15	0
1937–1946 ..	199.5–200.4	10	0	0	2287–2296 ..	235.5–236.4	11	16	0
1947–1956 ..	200.5–201.4	10	1	0	2297–2305 ..	236.5–237.4	11	17	0

* For "Court" (First Series) Equivalents (Base = 81.0) *see* Labour Report No. 34, page 38. For "Court" (Second Series) Equivalents (Base = 87.0) *see* Labour Report, No. 38, page 40.

†**Formulae for Construction of Tables—**

(*a*) "*C*" *Series.*—Let N = number of shillings in wage per week. Then $9.708738 \times (N - .5) + 1$ gives the first, and $9.708738 \times (N + .5)$ gives the second of the pair of numbers in the index-number division for N shillings. Decimal fractions in result are to be disregarded.

(*b*) "*Court*" *Series.*—Each "C" Series Index point = 0.103, and each of the first of the pair of index-number divisions for the "C" Series Index in the above table when multiplied by this factor gives to the first decimal place (as it stands) the first of the pair of index-number divisions for the "Court" Index (Third Series)—from which the second of the pair becomes obvious. (NOTE.—All "Court" Series index-numbers must be derived through their corresponding "C" Series index-numbers.)

‡ For general purposes, the Annual Rate (in £'s) is obtainable by multiplying the Weekly Rate (in Shillings) by 2.6083333 (i.e., $52\frac{1}{8}$ (weeks) divided by 20 (shillings),—a decimal point of .5 or more being taken to the next higher £.

Both the amount of wage and the adjustment scale operate only until the Court otherwise determines, and representatives of employers and employees have the right to approach the Court for variation of the wage or for variation of the adjustment scale. As from February, 1951, the whole basic wage is adjustable for wages varied according to the "Court" Index (Third Series). Under the First and Second Series only the "needs" portion was varied.

§ 12. International Comparisons: Retail Price Index-Numbers.

The following tables give index-numbers of retail prices for various countries. Except where otherwise noted, the average prices for the year 1948 are taken as base (= 100). The figures, which have been taken from the *Monthly Bulletin of Statistics* of the Statistical Office of the United Nations, show fluctuations in prices in each country, and do not measure relative price levels as between the various countries included.

Index-Numbers of Retail Prices in various Countries.*

(Source: *Monthly Bulletin of Statistics* of the Statistical Office of the United Nations.)

(*Base:* 1948 = 100.)

	Australia.	Belgium.	Brazil.	Canada.	Chile.	Denmark.	Egypt.	Finland.	India.	Ireland.
Town or Number of Localities.	30	62	Sao Paulo.	64	Santiago.	200	Cairo.	32	Bombay.	120
1939	71	27	24	65	24	61	36	13	35	56
1940	74	30	26	68	27	76	(a) 40	15	37	65
1941	78	..	28	72	31	89	49	18	41	71
1942	84	..	32	75	39	92	66	21	52	79
1943	87	..	37	76	45	93	86	24	76	89
1944	87	..	50	77	50	94	99	26	78	93
1945	87	..	62	77	55	96	104	36	78	93
1946	88	(b) 83	71	80	63	95	102	57	85	92
1947	92	87	92	87	85	98	99	74	92	(a) 98
1948	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**
1949	109	97	98	104	119	101	99	108	101	101
1950	120	96	104	107	137	107	104	123	103	102
1951	146	105	113	119	167	119	114	148	109	110
1951—										
March Qtr. ..	132	101	108	113	151	113	112	144	107	104
June ,, ..	142	105	112	118	158	117	113	146	111	110
Sept. ,, ..	150	106	116	122	175	120	114	150	108	112
Dec. ,, ..	158	107	115	123	185	121	116	152	110	114

* The index-numbers in the above table are based on the prices of food, housing, clothing and miscellaneous items.

(*a*) New index spliced to former index. (*b*) Based on fewer than twelve months.

Index-Numbers of Retail Prices in Various Countries*—*continued.*

(*Base:* 1948 = 100.)

	Netherlands.	New Zealand.	Norway.	Peru.	Southern Rhodesia.	Sweden.	Switzerland.	Union of South Africa.	United Kingdom.	United States of America.	Uruguay.
Town or Number of Localities.	6	21	53	Lima.	5	60	34	9	200	34	Montevideo.
1939	50	75	64	29	70	67	62	68	(*a*) 103	58	58
1940	57	79	74	32	71	75	67	70	119	58	61
1941	65	82	87	34	74	85	78	73	129	61	61
1942	70	84	92	39	78	92	87	79	130	68	62
1943	72	86	95	42	82	93	91	84	129	72	65
1944	(*b*) 74	88	96	48	86	93	93	87	130	73	68
1945	(*b*) 85	89	98	54	88	93	93	89	132	75	77
1946	(*b*) 94	90	100	59	91	93	93	91	132	81	85
1947	97	93	101	76	93	96	97	95	(*b*) 94	93	98
1948	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**
1949	107	(*c*)102	100	115	106	102	99	104	103	99	105
1950	*d* 109	107	*c* 105	129	114	103	(*c*) 98	108	106	100	101
1951	120	119	122	142	121	119	102	116	116	108	115
1951—											
March Qtr. ..	115	113	114	139	117	115	100	113	109	107	106
June ,, ..	122	118	122	140	120	120	102	115	114	108	115
Sept. ,, ..	121	122	126	142	122	123	103	117	118	108	114
Dec. ,, ..	120	125	126	145	125	125	105	118	119	110	123

* The index-numbers in the above table are based on the prices of food, housing, clothing and miscellaneous items.

(*a*) Base, 1937 = 100. (*b*) Based on fewer than twelve months. (*c*) New index spliced to former index. (*d*) New interim index; base, 1949 = 100.

INDEX-NUMBERS OF RETAIL PRICES OF FOOD.

	Australia.	Brazil.	Canada.	Chile.	Denmark.	Egypt.	Finland.	France.	India.	Ireland.
Town or Number of Localities.	30	Sao Paulo.	64	Santiago.	200	Cairo.	32	Paris.	Bombay.	120
1939	74	24	51	23	61	34	11	7	33	55
1940	75	25	54	27	74	(*a*) 37	13	8	36	62
1941	75	28	59	31	91	47	16	9	40	68
1942	82	31	65	41	94	64	19	10	52	76
1943	83	36	67	48	93	88	21	13	72	84
1944	82	47	67	52	93	104	21	17	76	89
1945	82	58	68	55	94	108	33	23	78	90
1946	83	74	72	64	94	103	52	39	91	89
1947	88	88	82	86	98	99	76	63	99	(*a*) 97
1948	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**
1949	111	96	104	115	101	(*b*) 101	103	(*c*) 100	105	100
1950	125	103	108	134	118	(*b*) 111	118	111	109	100
1951	162	108	123	169	131	120	126	128	115	107
1951—										
March Qtr. ..	143	102	116	150	127	118	125	121	113	100
June ,, ..	153	108	122	153	129	118	125	127	116	107
Sept. ,, ..	170	112	128	180	130	119	126	128	113	109
Dec. ,, ..	184	111	128	193	131	123	129	136	116	110

(*a*) New index spliced to former index. (*b*) Based on fewer than twelve months. (*c*) New index; base, 1949 = 100.

Index-Numbers of Retail Prices in Various Countries—*continued.*

(*Base:* 1948 = 100.)

INDEX-NUMBERS OF RETAIL PRICES OF FOOD—*continued.*

	MEXICO.	NETHERLANDS.	NEW ZEALAND.	NORWAY.	PERU.	SOUTHERN RHODESIA.	SWITZERLAND.	UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA.	UNITED KINGDOM.	UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.	URUGUAY.
Town or Number of Localities.	Mexico City.	6	21	53	Lima.	5	34	9	200	34	Montevideo.
1939	31	45	76	67	25	62	58	63	(*a*) 101	45	52
1940	31	53	78	81	28	63	64	65	118	46	54
1941	31	63	80	96	32	(*b*) 68	76	70	121	50	54
1942	36	69	82	100	35	71	87	77	116	59	56
1943	46	70	82	102	39	74	92	84	119	66	60
1944	59	(*c*) 72	83	102	45	76	94	88	121	65	62
1945	64	(*c*) 74	83	103	50	78	94	90	122	66	74
1946	83	(*c*) 85	83	104	54	81	91	92	122	76	83
1947	95	93	89	103	74	88	97	97	(*c*) 94	92	102
1948	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**
1949	104	109	*b* 103	99	116	107	99	103	105	96	100
1950	108	*d* 111	113	*b* 108	134	121	*b* 100	109	113	97	91
1951	124	121	130	127	150	131	103	116	126	108	106
1951—											
March Qtr. ..	113	113	121	118	148	127	102	113	118	107	96
June ,, ..	119	123	127	128	147	132	102	116	124	108	104
Sept. ,, ..	129	125	133	131	150	132	104	116	129	108	110
Dec. ,, ..	134	123	139	131	155	132	105	120	133	110	116

(*a*) Base, 1937 = 100. (*b*) New index spliced to former index. (*c*) Based on fewer than twelve months. (*d*) New interim index; base, 1949 = 100.

CHAPTER II.—WHOLESALE PRICES AND PRICE INDEXES.

§ 1. General.

Two indexes of wholesale prices are compiled by the Bureau. These are—

(i) The Melbourne Wholesale Price Index ;
(ii) The Wholesale Price (Basic Materials and Foodstuffs) Index.

Particulars of the Melbourne Wholesale Price Index, which is now obsolescent, are given in § 3 commencing on page 48 below.

After reviewing the regimen and weighting of this index the 1930 Conference of Statisticians resolved that a new index of Wholesale Prices of Basic Materials and Foodstuffs should be compiled. This index extends back to the year 1928 and is compiled monthly. This Wholesale Price (Basic Materials and Foodstuffs) Index is a special purpose index and one of a series of Wholesale Price Indexes designed for special purposes.

§ 2. Wholesale Price (Basic Materials and Foodstuffs) Index.

1. **Price Quotations.**—The prices used in the index have in the main been obtained directly from manufacturers and merchants, and, with a few important exceptions, from Melbourne sources. Apart from locally produced building materials and one or two minor commodities, however, the price movements may be taken as representative of variations in wholesale prices of basic materials in most Australian markets.

Commodities in the index are priced in their primary or basic form wherever possible and in respect of imported materials as nearly as may be at the point where they first make effective impact on the local price structure. Thus the price of imported goods is not taken at the time of import, but rather on an ex-bond (or into factory) basis.

Broadly, where home-consumption prices exist for local products, they have been used in this index. During the year 1950–51 wool for local manufacture was subsidized. The home-consumption price for wool was used to calculate the index-numbers shown in the table in paragraph 4, page 47, and the index calculated on the basis of open market prices for wool is shown in paragraph 5.

2. **Commodities and Grouping.**—For purposes of this index "basic" materials (as opposed to certain of the Foodstuffs) are commodities in the primary or basic forms in which they first enter into productive processes carried out in Australia. The regimen comprises 80 commodities, divided into seven main groups. Each group is sub-divided into goods which are mainly imported, and goods which are mainly home-produced. A full list of these commodities is set out below, showing the quantity-multipliers (weights) for each commodity, and the percentage of the total aggregate value in 1950 contributed by each commodity and group.

3. **Method of Construction.**—The index is constructed on the simple aggregative fixed-weights formula. The weights (quantity-multipliers) are based on estimates of the average annual consumption of the commodities in Australia during the period 1928–29 to 1934–35 inclusive. Changes in usage, changes of category as between "imported" and "home-produced" as affecting some commodities, and changes in the industrial structure have affected the validity of some of the weights in the index. These and other problems (e.g., dual prices for some commodities) are being examined with a view to revision of the regimen, its grouping and weighting, when conditions are more stable.

Wholesale Price (Basic Materials and Foodstuffs) Index.

Commodities in Regimen, Units of Measurement, Quantity-Multipliers, and Percentage Value-Weight in 1950.

Commodity.	Unit.	Quantity-multiplier. (Weight.)	Percentage Value-weight 1950.
Metals and Coal—			
Principally Imported—			
Aluminium ..	ton	985	0.05
Principally Home-produced—			
Iron and steel..	ton	637,000	3.19
Briquettes ..	ton	243,000	0.14
Copper - wire bars ..	ton	7,000	0.38
Coal ..	ton	9,300,000	11.21
Lead, soft pig	ton	10,400	0.13
Tin, ingots ..	ton	1,250	0.26
Zinc, ingots ..	ton	14,800	0.20
Total ..	..	..	15.56
Oils, Fats and Waxes—			
Principally Imported—			
Coconut oil ..	ton	6,500	0.22
Fuel oil ..	ton	170,000	0.70
Linseed oil ..	gallon	2,250,000	0.68
Lubricating oil	gallon	3,960,000	0.35
Kerosene, power	gallon	21,000,000	0.50
Petrol, 1st grade	gallon	78,000,000	3.02
Petrol, 2nd grade	gallon	140,000,000	5.43
Principally Home-produced—			
Beeswax ..	lb.	169,112	0.01
Tallow ..	ton	26,000	0.23
Total ..	..	..	11.14
Textiles—			
Principally Imported—			
Hemp ..	ton	5,575	0.45
Kapok ..	lb.	6,160,000	0.39
Jute fibre ..	ton	874	0.04
Phormium tenax	ton	2,275	0.02
Silk, raw ..	lb.	455,900	0.20
Principally Home-produced—			
Cotton, raw ..	lb.	15,900,000	0.61
Wool, greasy ..	lb.	50,200,000	4.50
Total ..	..	..	6.21
Chemicals—			
Principally Imported—			
Ammonium sulphate ..	ton	23,830	0.16
Potash, muriate	ton	4,055	0.04
Potash, sulphate ..	ton	2,025	0.02
Soda ash ..	ton	21,400	0.13
Soda, nitrate ..	ton	1,100	0.01
Soda, nitrate-Chilean ..	ton	3,600	0.03
Sulphur ..	ton	95,500	0.79
Principally Home-produced—			
Arsenic ..	ton	1,531	0.03
Blood and bone	ton	34,431	0.11
Methylated spirits ..	gallon	2,374,000	0.09
Soda crystals ..	ton	4,986	0.02
Superphosphate	ton	704,144	1.65
Sulphuric acid	ton	226,450	0.87
Total ..	..	..	3.95
Rubber and Hides—			
Principally Imported—			
Rubber, crude	lb.	24,214,400	1.17
Principally Home-produced—			
Calf skins ..	lb.	4,455,000	0.06
Cattle hides ..	lb.	57,246,000	0.48
Tanning bark..	ton	23,000	0.14
Total ..	..	..	1.85
Building Materials—			
Principally Imported—			
Timber, soft-woods ..	1,000 sup. ft.	346,500	5.00
Turpentine ..	gallon	458,000	0.07
Principally Home-produced—			
Bricks ..	1,000	372,000	0.82
Cement ..	ton	479,000	0.80
Drain-pipes ..	foot	7,270,000	0.28
Glass, window..	100 sq. ft.	82,370	0.06
Lime ..	ton	51,144	0.07
Plaster ..	ton	53,000	0.18
Timber, hard-woods ..	100 sup. ft.	2,575,000	1.93
White lead ..	cwt.	60,000	0.09
Whiting ..	cwt.	274,000	0.08
Total ..	..	..	9.38
Foodstuffs and Tobacco—			
Principally Imported—			
Tapioca ..	cwt.	719,000	0.59
Cocoa, raw ..	cwt.	99,500	0.47
Coffee ..	lb.	3,469,000	0.23
Tea ..	lb.	46,629,000	2.84
Mustard ..	doz. lb.	47,000	0.02
Herrings ..	doz. lb.	276,000	0.08
Salmon ..	doz. lb.	1,048,000	0.71
Sild	doz. 4-oz. tins	807,300	0.16
Tobacco, leaf ..	lb.	17,451,000	7.21
Principally Home-produced—			
Barley ..	bushel	4,940,000	0.50
Maize ..	bushel	315,000	0.05
Oats..	bushel	14,970,000	1.43
Rice ..	cwt.	323,200	0.19
Wheat ..	bushel	39,900,000	3.75
Onions ..	ton	41,000	0.25
Peas..	bushel	644,000	0.18
Potatoes ..	ton	348,000	2.28
Sugar ..	ton	336,000	3.87
Beef ..	100 lb.	7,004,750	8.88
Lamb ..	lb.	83,119,000	1.54
Mutton ..	lb.	436,414,000	4.65
Pork ..	lb.	47,562,000	1.24
Butter fat ..	lb.	194,500,000	5.28
Lard ..	lb.	1,427,000	0.02
Milk ..	gallon	159,900,000	4.70
Currants ..	lb.	9,900,000	0.14
Sultanas ..	lb.	18,000,000	0.28
Grapes ..	ton	94,000	0.37
Total ..	..	..	51.91
All Groups—			
Principally Imported ..	..	..	31.78
Principally Home-produced	..	..	68.22
Total ..	..		100.00

4. **Index-Numbers.**—Index-numbers for each group of commodities and for all groups combined for the index of wholesale prices of basic materials and foodstuffs are given in the following table. Current index-numbers, on the base: Average of three years ended June, 1939 = 100, are published in the *Monthly Review of Business Statistics*.

Wholesale Price (Basic Materials and Foodstuffs) Index-Numbers, 1928 to December, 1951.

(*Base of each Group: Year* 1928 = 100.)

Period.	Basic Materials.							Foodstuffs and Tobacco.	Basic Materials and Foodstuffs.		
	Metals and Coal.	Oils, Fats and Waxes.	Textiles.	Chemicals.	Rubber and Hides.	Building Materials.	Total.		Goods principally Imported.	Goods principally Home Produced.	All Groups.
1928	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
1929	100	102	83	98	77	98	98	107	101	103	103
1930	95	108	61	95	55	100	93	95	105	92	95
1931	89	109	57	98	58	101	92	81	111	79	87
1932	83	107	54	98	53	98	88	79	108	76	84
1933	82	88	62	95	56	100	83	78	101	75	81
1934	79	82	66	89	60	98	80	81	99	75	81
1935	74	88	62	82	59	97	79	85	103	76	83
1936	72	91	76	82	72	99	82	91	105	81	87
1937	79	95	87	82	89	110	91	93	113	84	91
1938	80	95	61	83	66	104	88	96	109	85	91
1939	81	97	65	84	76	105	90	95	111	86	92
1940	84	123	78	97	93	127	104	100	134	90	101
1941	88	134	82	106	98	137	112	104	156	91	107
1942	97	151	93	116	104	154	125	119	180	101	120
1943	103	160	110	118	106	181	135	121	199	103	126
1944	103	160	108	118	106	183	135	122	200	104	127
1945	103	153	108	117	106	184	133	126	198	106	128
1946	102	142	119	116	104	187	131	128	194	107	128
1947	107	142	165	116	94	194	137	137	202	114	135
1948	129	159	234	127	100	204	157	156	217	135	155
1949	160	166	254	138	96	213	175	175	225	156	173
1950	179	179	(*a*)382	179	155	258	(*a*)208	202	263	(*a*)183	(*a*) 203
1951	235	196	(*a*)475	229	248	327	(*a*)261	246	299	(*a*)235	(*a*) 251
1951—											
January ..	203	179	(*a*)554	197	255	275	(*a*)239	209	280	(*a*)202	(*a*) 221
February ..	209	184	(*a*)600	207	263	292	(*a*)250	217	289	(*a*)211	(*a*) 230
March ..	221	190	(*a*)652	208	274	293	(*a*)260	233	295	(*a*)227	(*a*) 244
April ..	221	196	(*a*)505	208	249	310	(*a*)253	228	293	(*a*)219	(*a*) 237
May ..	227	196	(*a*)455	208	243	311	(*a*)252	238	294	(*a*)225	(*a*) 242
June ..	228	196	(*a*)344	209	230	327	(*a*)246	262	298	(*a*)237	(*a*) 252
July ..	227	197	352	248	227	330	250	269	297	245	258
August ..	243	197	433	248	265	332	264	276	301	258	268
September ..	247	200	406	252	263	336	266	268	302	252	264
October ..	252	201	501	252	262	361	279	252	309	247	262
November ..	269	210	455	253	244	379	286	248	317	246	263
December ..	271	210	442	257	205	382	285	256	313	252	267

(*a*) These index-numbers are computed using the price of raw wool for local manufacture. For computation using the auction room price of wool *see* paragraph 5.

5. **Effect of Wool Bounty.**—Legislation which became effective on 14th December, 1950, had the effect of reducing (by bounty) the price paid for raw wool for local manufacture in Australia below the open market (auction room) price. Such reductions were virtually retrospective to August, 1950, and continued until 30th June, 1951. The effective prices paid for raw wool for local manufacture (i.e., auction room price less bounty) have been used in calculating the index-numbers shown in the table above. The following table shows these same indexes calculated on the auction room prices for wool. Only the index-numbers marked (*a*) in the table above are affected, and these are shown in the following table calculated on the auction room price for wool.

Period.	Textiles.	Total Basic Materials.	Goods Principally Home-Produced.	Total All Groups.
1950—Year	443	212	186	205
1951— „	554	266	239	253
1950—				
August	529	218	194	211
September	540	221	195	212
October	541	227	198	216
November	572	234	203	221
December	578	239	202	221
1951—				
January	715	250	209	226
February	761	261	218	236
March	812	272	234	249
April	665	264	226	243
May	609	262	232	247
June	494	256	243	257

§ 3. Melbourne Wholesale Price Index.

1. **General.**—An index of Melbourne wholesale prices was first computed in 1912. It relates chiefly to basic materials and foods weighted in accordance with consumption in the years immediately preceding that date. Neither the component items of the regimen nor the weighting have been varied. Consequently, the index is outmoded for current use and is a measure of variations in wholesale prices based on the weighting originally determined. It has some historic significance as a measure of changes in the prices of its component items combined in the proportions in which they were in common use about the year 1910. It is now published only on an annual basis and is mainly used as an approximate indication of long term trends since the year 1861, for which it was first compiled. A description of the index and a list of the commodities included in it were published on pages 43 to 45 of Labour Report No. 38 for 1949.

2. **Index-Numbers.**—1861 *to* 1951 (1911 *base*)—Index-numbers for each group of commodities, as well as for all groups combined, are shown in the following table :—

Melbourne Wholesale Price Index-Numbers, 1861 to 1951.

(*Base of each Group : Year* 1911 = 1,000.)

Year.	I. Metals and Coal.	II. Wool, Cotton, Leather, &c.	III. Agricultural Produce, &c.	IV. Dairy Produce.	V. Groceries.	VI. Meat.	VII. Building Materials.	VIII. Chemicals.	All Groups.
1861 ..	1,438	1,381	1,583	1,008	1,963	..	1,070	2,030	1,538
1871 ..	1,096	1,257	1,236	864	1,586	..	1,044	1,409	1,229
1881 ..	1,178	1,115	1,012	935	1,421	..	1,091	1,587	1,121
1891 ..	895	847	1,024	995	1,032	888	780	1,194	945
1901 ..	1,061	774	928	1,029	1,048	1,345	841	917	974
1902 ..	1,007	756	1,192	1,215	945	1,447	837	881	1,051
1903 ..	923	834	1,209	1,059	936	1,443	875	921	1,049
1904 ..	821	885	754	876	916	1,427	845	875	890
1905 ..	772	850	894	980	942	1,209	809	859	910
1906 ..	882	978	916	972	923	1,110	896	864	948
1907 ..	1,037	1,017	973	1,020	948	1,294	968	961	1,021
1908 ..	1,033	901	1,312	1,198	968	1,335	935	891	1,115
1909 ..	1,014	907	1,000	1,119	978	1,088	911	815	993
1910 ..	1,004	1,052	969	1,100	999	1,008	996	898	1,003
1911 ..	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
1912 ..	1,021	991	1,370	1,206	1,052	1,357	1,057	978	1,170
1913 ..	1,046	1,070	1,097	1,054	1,024	1,252	1,128	995	1,188
1914 ..	1,099	1,032	1,207	1,137	1,021	1,507	1,081	1,253	1,149
1915 ..	1,284	1,017	2,162	1,530	1,133	2,435	1,275	1,528	1,604
1916 ..	1,695	1,423	1,208	1,485	1,322	2,515	1,491	1,760	1,504
1917 ..	2,129	2,008	1,157	1,423	1,343	2,403	1,884	2,171	1,662
1918 ..	2,416	2,360	1,444	1,454	1,422	2,385	2,686	3,225	1,934
1919 ..	2,121	2,363	1,987	1,651	1,514	2,342	2,852	2,896	2,055
1920 ..	2,302	2,625	2,460	2,213	1,920	3,279	3,226	2,834	2,483
1921 ..	2,173	1,361	1,767	2,000	1,977	2,158	2,733	2,303	1,903
1922 ..	1,941	1,681	1,628	1,648	1,869	1,787	2,005	1,963	1,758
1923 ..	1,826	2,148	1,778	1,840	1,746	2,579	2,024	1,933	1,944
1924 ..	1,835	2,418	1,647	1,655	1,721	2,223	1,814	1,806	1,885
1925 ..	1,851	1,966	1,796	1,636	1,723	2,212	1,711	1,790	1,844
1926 ..	1,938	1,582	2,001	1,784	1,730	1,931	1,664	1,816	1,832
1927 ..	1,962	1,650	1,826	1,823	1,724	2,111	1,623	1,866	1,817
1928 ..	1,912	1,781	1,726	1,751	1,707	2,015	1,744	1,923	1,792
1929 ..	1,912	1,555	1,793	1,854	1,689	2,245	1,755	1,943	1,803
1930 ..	1,867	1,127	1,484	1,627	1,666	2,024	1,875	1,982	1,596
1931 ..	1,826	1,040	1,121	1,398	1,794	1,512	2,025	2,166	1,429
1932 ..	1,736	998	1,230	1,304	1,766	1,351	2,043	2,127	1,411
1933 ..	1,713	1,118	1,175	1,194	1,714	1,485	2,061	2,105	1,409
1934 ..	1,660	1,261	1,288	1,274	1,735	1,540	2,015	2,017	1,471
1935 ..	1,602	1,217	1,344	1,325	1,729	1,508	1,964	1,996	1,469
1936 ..	1,566	1,330	1,480	1,351	1,731	1,684	1,969	1,997	1,543
1937 ..	1,772	1,406	1,604	1,451	1,750	1,678	2,430	2,006	1,656
1938 ..	1,746	1,051	1,789	1,549	1,747	1,871	2,238	2,059	1,662
1939 ..	1,758	1,101	1,820	1,557	1,752	1,710	2,220	2,075	1,665
1940 ..	1,854	1,361	1,567	1,567	1,784	1,882	2,890	2,298	1,713
1941 ..	1,960	1,402	1,721	1,554	1,883	1,776	3,138	2,527	1,798
1942 ..	2,146	1,507	1,900	1,665	1,938	2,312	3,409	2,437	1,977
1943 ..	2,272	1,945	1,964	1,716	1,939	2,366	3,764	2,442	2,117
1944 ..	2,278	1,967	2,052	1,721	1,949	2,470	3,768	2,442	2,159
1945 ..	2,270	1,960	2,259	1,726	1,967	2,560	3,770	2,527	2,228
1946 ..	2,262	2,062	1,951	1,722	1,977	2,589	3,772	2,614	2,162
1947 ..	2,390	2,690	2,019	1,763	2,174	2,748	3,800	2,843	2,360
1948 ..	2,829	3,619	2,383	2,104	2,435	2,976	4,631	3,180	2,824
1949 ..	3,502	3,966	2,876	2,309	2,558	3,356	4,611	3,221	3,191
1950 ..	3,902	5,464	3,155	2,459	2,829	4,616	(*a*) 5,567	3,263	3,816
1951 ..	5,080	7,943	4,512	2,930	2,850	6,438	(*a*) 7,074	3,294	5,098

NOTE.—The figures given in this table are comparable in the vertical columns, but are not directly comparable horizontally.

(*a*) The regimen and weighting of the original Building Materials group of this index have become unreal. The movement shown here for this group between 1949 and 1951 has been calculated in accordance with the movement occurring in the Building Materials group of the Basic Materials and Foodstuffs Index.

§ 4. International Comparisons: Wholesale Price Index-Numbers.

The following table gives index-numbers of wholesale prices for the period 1939 to December, 1951, for Australia and other countries. Except where otherwise noted, the average prices in each country for the year 1948 are taken as base (= 100). The figures, which have been taken from the *Monthly Bulletin of Statistics* published by the Statistical Office of the United Nations, show fluctuations in prices in each country, and do not measure relative price levels as between the various countries included.

Index-Numbers of Wholesale Prices in Various Countries.

(Source: *Monthly Bulletin of Statistics* of the Statistical Office of the United Nations.)

(*Base*: 1948 = 100.)

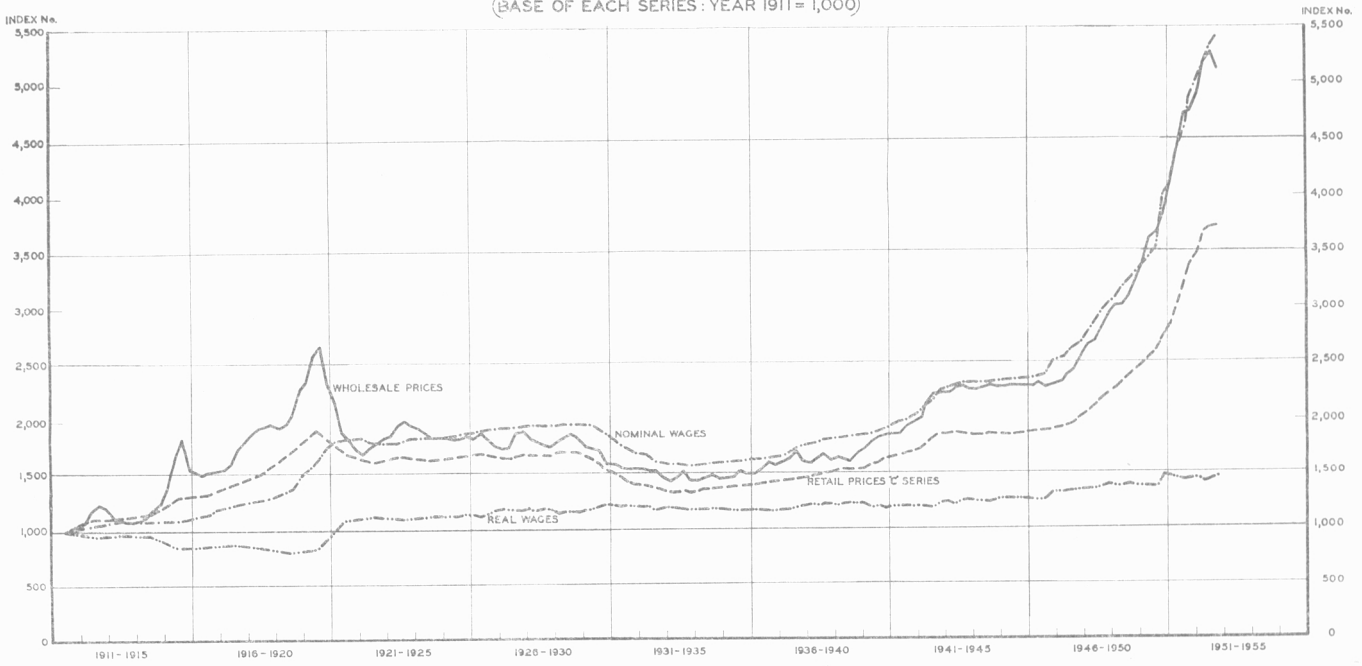
Period.	Australia.	Brazil.	Canada.	Chile.	Denmark.	Egypt.	Finland.	France.	India.	Ireland.
1939	59	28	51	28	46	32	11	6	29	45
1940	65	29	56	30	68	39	15	8	33	57
1941	69	36	60	35	80	49	18	10	36	64
1942	78	43	64	48	84	63	22	12	44	73
1943	81	49	66	53	84	80	25	14	60	82
1944	82	53	68	55	85	95	28	15	67	85
1945	83	61	68	58	84	101	40	22	68	85
1946	83	(*a*) 71	72	68	83	98	63	38	74	85
1947	87	86	84	(*a*) 87	91	92	76	58	(*a*) 81	95
1948	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**
1949	112	110	103	114	102	94	101	(*b*) **100**	104	100
1950	132	127	109	134	115	104	116	108	109	105
1951	163	154	124	175	147	116	166	138	120	122
1951—										
March Qtr. ..	153	153	123	158	138	117	150	145	116	117
June ,, ..	161	158	125	170	150	116	163	140	124	122
Sept. ,, ..	170	148	125	181	150	116	174	136	120	122
Dec. ,, ..	171	155	124	192	149	116	177	150	119	127

Period.	Mexico (Mexico City).	Netherlands.	New Zealand.	Norway.	Peru (Lima).	Sweden.	Switzerland.	Union of South Africa.	United Kingdom.		United States of America.
									Board of Trade.	*Economist.*	
1939	38	37	58	56	27	54	48	56	47	46	48
1940	39	46	65	73	30	68	62	62	62	59	49
1941	42	53	71	90	35	80	79	68	70	65	55
1942	46	56	77	95	44	88	90	76	73	69	62
1943	56	57	82	96	51	92	94	83	74	70	64
1944	69	58	85	97	53	92	96	86	76	72	65
1945	76	64	86	98	55	91	95	87	77	74	66
1946	88	89	86	93	59	87	92	89	80	78	76
1947	93	96	90	97	80	93	96	94	88	91	93
1948	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**
1949	110	104	99	102	140	101	95	106	105	104	95
1950	120	117	108	115	163	106	94	113	120	119	99
1951	148	143	126	143	192	140	105	129	146	138	110
1951—											
March Qtr. ..	138	140	120	133	186	129	106	121	140	137	111
June ,, ..	151	145	124	143	190	141	106	127	146	140	111
Sept. ,, ..	151	142	129	147	194	142	103	131	147	138	109
Dec. ,, ..	154	144	134	148	199	147	105	136	150	138	109

(*a*) New index linked to former index. (*b*) New index; base, 1949 = 100.

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL PRICES; NOMINAL, AND EFFECTIVE OR REAL WAGES – INDEX-NUMBERS AUSTRALIA, 1911 TO 1952

(BASE OF EACH SERIES : YEAR 1911 = 1,000)



EXPLANATION.—The index-numbers in the graph above are for the Six Capital Cities as a whole, with the exception of those for Wholesale Prices up to the fourth quarter of 1927, which are for Melbourne. The wholesale prices graph shows the trend of prices according to the "old" Melbourne Index up to the fourth quarter of 1927, but thereafter, this index having been "spliced" with the Basic Materials and Foodstuffs Index, the curve line moves in accordance with the variations of the latter. For the period 1911-1914 the "C" Series index-numbers are taken back from the true base (November, 1914 = 1,000) by means of the "A" Series Index (Food and Rent of All Houses). Real wages are computed on the basis of the "C" Series Retail Price Index.

CHAPTER III.—WAGES AND HOURS.

§ 1. Arbitration and Wages Board Acts and Associated Legislation.

1. **General.**—Particulars regarding the operation of Commonwealth and State Laws for the regulation of wages, hours and conditions of labour were first compiled for the year 1913, and reviews to the end of each annual period appear in previous issues of the Labour Report.

2. **Laws Regulating Industrial Matters.**—The principal Laws in force regulating rates of wage, hours of labour, and working conditions generally in both Commonwealth and State jurisdictions at the end of 1951 are listed below :—

COMMONWEALTH.

Conciliation and Arbitration Act 1904–1951.
Defence (Transitional Provisions) Act 1946–1951.
Public Service Arbitration Act 1920–1950.
Coal Industry Act 1946–1951.
Stevedoring Industry Act 1949.
Snowy Mountains Hydro-electric Power Act 1949–1951.

STATES.

New South Wales ..	Industrial Arbitration Act 1940-1951. Coal Industry Act 1946–1951.
Victoria	Factories and Shops Acts 1928–1951.
Queensland ..	Industrial Conciliation and Arbitration Acts 1932–1948.
South Australia ..	Industrial Code 1920–1951.
Western Australia ..	Industrial Arbitration Act 1912–1950.
Tasmania	Wages Board Act 1920–1951.

3. **Methods of Administration.**—(i) COMMONWEALTH—(*a*) *Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration and Commonwealth Conciliation Commissioners.*—The authority for the prevention and settlement of interstate industrial disputes is vested in the Court (consisting of a Chief Judge and such other judges as are appointed) and Conciliation Commissioners (undefined as regards number).

The Act provides that where a State award or determination is inconsistent with an award issued by the Commonwealth Authority, the latter shall prevail, and the Commonwealth Court can also restrain a State Authority from proceeding in a matter already covered, or being dealt with, by the Commonwealth Authority.

During the 1939–45 War, the powers of the Court were considerably enlarged under National Security (Industrial Peace) Regulations (Statutory Rules No. 290 of 1940 and subsequent amendments) to secure the prompt settlement of industrial disputes occurring or likely to occur, and such regulations were to be construed as if their provisions were incorporated in the Conciliation and Arbitration Act. These regulations were continued in force under the Defence (Transitional Provisions) Act 1946–1950.

The allocation of the respective powers and functions of the Court and the Conciliation Commissioners is defined by Statute. The Court alone has power to make an order or award (*a*) altering the standard hours of work in industry; (*b*) altering the basic wage* for adult males or the principles upon which it is computed; (*c*) providing for, or altering a provision for, annual or other periodical leave with pay, sick leave with pay

* *See* § 4 of this Chapter.

or long-service leave with pay; (*d*) determining or altering the basic wage for adult females or the principles upon which it is computed. Subject to this, however, the Commissioners have been given wide powers, without technical and artificial hindrances, to go to the cause of impending industrial trouble in the particular industries to which they have been assigned and to endeavour to remove the cause of the trouble by conciliating the disputants. If this fails, the Conciliation Commissioner should then, but not until then, with no further formalities, act in an arbitral capacity to prevent or settle the dispute by making an award or order. It is also provided that no award or order made by him (within his jurisdiction) may be challenged, appealed against, reviewed, quashed or called in question, or be subject to prohibition, mandamus or injunction, in any Court on any account whatever.

(*b*) *Coal Industry Tribunal and Central Reference Board.*—The Coal Industry Tribunal was established under the Commonwealth Coal Industry Act No. 40 of 1946 and the New South Wales Coal Industry Act No. 44 of 1946 to consider and determine interstate disputes and, in respect of New South Wales only, intra-State disputes between the Australian Coal and Shale Employees' Federation and employers in the coal-mining industry. The Central Industrial Authority established under the Coal Production (War-time) Act of 1944 was superseded but the awards, orders, and determinations of the Central Industrial Authority were continued in force until rescinded or varied by the Coal Industry Tribunal. The Central Reference Board with its subsidiary Local Reference Boards established by the National Security (Coal Mining Industry) Regulations and continued in force by the Defence (Transitional Provisions) Acts 1946–1950 dealt with industrial matters and had powers for the prevention and settlement of industrial disputes affecting unions other than the Australian Coal and Shale Employees' Federation in the coal-mining industry.

Under amending legislation passed jointly by the Commonwealth and New South Wales Parliaments in 1951 the Coal Industry Tribunal was vested with authority to deal with all interstate industrial disputes in the coal-mining industry, and in the case of New South Wales intra-State disputes also. In effect the functions of the Central Reference Board were absorbed by the Coal Industry Tribunal. The Tribunal consists of one person who may appoint two assessors nominated by the parties to advise him in matters relating to any dispute. Subsidiary authorities are the Local Coal Authorities and Mine Conciliation Committees who may be appointed to assist in the prevention and settlement of certain disputes.

(*c*) *Australian Stevedoring Industry Board.*—The Australian Stevedoring Industry Board (established under the Stevedoring Industry Act No. 39 of 1949) replaced the Stevedoring Industry Commission set up in 1947 in continuation of the war-time authorities set up by the National Security (Stevedoring) Regulations of 1942, and the National Security (Shipping Co-ordination) Regulations of 1944.

The functions of the Board are the regulation and control of the performance of stevedoring operations, the development of port facilities, the provision of labour for stevedoring operations, the payment of attendance money, the establishment of employment bureaux and the provision of medical facilities and amenities for waterside workers. The Board is responsible for registration of employers and waterside workers and may delegate any of its powers to Waterside Employment Committees.

The arbitral jurisdiction formerly exercised by the Stevedoring Industry Commission to prevent and settle industrial disputes and regulate industrial

matters in the industry is now vested in the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration and is exercisable by a single Judge, who may refer questions of law for the opinion of the Full Court.

(*d*) *Commonwealth Public Service Arbitrator.*—Wages, hours of labour and working conditions in the Commonwealth Public Service are regulated by the Commonwealth Public Service Arbitrator, under powers conferred by the Public Service Arbitration Act 1920–1950. The system of arbitration commenced to operate in 1912, cases being heard by the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration, as part of the ordinary work of that Court. From 1920, however, the control was transferred to the Arbitrator, who is appointed by the Government for a term of seven years, and who need not necessarily have legal qualifications. No appeal lies against a determination of the Arbitrator, but Parliament may exercise a right of veto when the instrument is brought before it for ratification.

(*e*) *Australian Capital Territory Industrial Board.*—The regulation of industrial matters in the Australian Capital Territory under a local Industrial Board commenced in the year 1922. An amending Ordinance gazetted on 19th May, 1949, however, abolished the Board and transferred its functions to authorities established by the Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act. A separate Registry of the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration was established in Canberra. Industrial matters formerly dealt with by the Industrial Board are now determined either by the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration or by the Conciliation Commissioner assigned to the Australian Capital Territory. It was provided, however, that all determinations and orders made by the Industrial Board and all industrial agreements filed with the Board prior to the amendment of the Ordinance, and in force at the time, continue to operate, but subject to any order, award or determination made after that date under the Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act or the Arbitration (Public Service) Act.

Details of the provisions relating to the Board during its period of jurisdiction may be found in issues of the Labour Report prior to No. 37 (*see* No. 36, p. 51).

(ii) STATES—(*a*) *New South Wales.*—The controlling authority is the Industrial Commission of New South Wales consisting of a President and five other Judges. Subsidiary tribunals are the Conciliation Commissioners, the Apprenticeship Commissioner, Conciliation Committees and Apprenticeship Councils constituted for particular industries. Each Conciliation Committee consists of a Conciliation Commissioner as chairman and equal representatives of employers and employees. The Apprenticeship Commissioner and the members of the Conciliation Committee for an industry constitute the Apprenticeship Council for the industry. These subsidiary tribunals may make awards binding on industries, but an appeal to the Industrial Commission may be made against any award. Special Commissioners with conciliatory powers only may be appointed. Compulsory control commenced in 1901, after the earlier Acts of 1892 and 1899 providing for voluntary submission of matters in dispute had proved abortive.

(*b*) *Victoria.*—The authorities are separate Wages Boards for the industries covered, each consisting of a chairman and equal representatives of employers and employees, and a Court of Industrial Appeals, the latter presided over by a Judge of the County Court. The system was instituted in the State in 1896, and represents the first instance in Australia of legal regulation in this sphere.

(c) *Queensland.*—The authority is the Industrial Court, consisting of a Judge of the Supreme Court and not more than four members appointed by the Governor in Council. Legal control was first instituted in 1907 with the passing of the Wages Board Act.

(d) *South Australia.*—The principal tribunal is called the Industrial Court; there are also Industrial Boards consisting of a chairman and equal numbers of representatives of employers and employees for the various industries, and a Board of Industry. The Court is composed of the President (a person eligible for appointment as a Judge of the Supreme Court) who may be joined by two assessors who must be employed in the industry concerned. Deputy Presidents may also be appointed. The "Living Wage" is declared by the Board of Industry, composed of the President or Deputy President of the Industrial Court and four Commissioners. Legal control was first instituted in 1900.

(e) *Western Australia.*—The system of control comprises an Arbitration Court, Industrial Boards, Conciliation Committees and a Conciliation Commissioner. Employers and employees are equally represented on both Boards and Committees. The Court consists of a Judge of the Supreme Court and two members. Commissioners may also be appointed by the Minister for the settlement of particular disputes. Legal control dates back to 1900.

(f) *Tasmania.*—The authority consists of Wages Boards for separate industries, comprising a Chairman, appointed by the Governor, and equal numbers of representatives of employers and workers, appointed by the Minister administering the Act. The system was instituted in 1910.

4. **Awards, Determinations, and Agreements in Force.**—Considerable extension of the principle of the fixation of legal minimum and marginal rates of wages and of working conditions has taken place since 1913 when the tabulation of such statistics was first undertaken by the Bureau, and until 1939 figures showing approximately the magnitude of these operations were published in this Report. Since that year their publication has ceased owing to great difficulties in obtaining precise data for reasons explained in part in the following paragraph.

With reference to the number of industrial awards and registered industrial agreements in force at the end of any period, awards and determinations made by both State and Commonwealth tribunals generally continue in force after the term of operation mentioned therein has expired, until rescinded or superseded by a subsequent order or award. Clause 48 (2) of the Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act provides that, after the expiration of the period specified, the award shall, unless the Court otherwise orders, continue in force until a new award has been made; provided that, where in pursuance of this sub-section an award has continued in force after the expiration of the period specified in the award, any award made by the Court for the settlement of a new industrial dispute between the parties may, if the Court so orders, be made retrospective to a date not earlier than the date upon which the Court first had cognizance of that dispute. In the Industrial Code of South Australia, Clause 47 (2), and in legislation for other States, similar provisions are in force. All industrial agreements continue in force after the expiration of the term mentioned until rescinded or superseded by a subsequent agreement or order. The Tasmanian Wages Board Act, 1934, repealed Part IV. of the Principal Act providing for industrial agreements and all such agreements ceased to operate from the commencement of the Act unless an agreement existed in

a trade to which no determination of a Board was applicable, in which case the agreement remained in force until its expiry or until a determination was made.

5. **New Legislation and Special Reports.**—Information concerning the main provisions of various Industrial Acts in force throughout Australia was given in earlier Reports, and brief reviews are furnished each year of the more important aspects of new industrial legislation having special application to the terms of awards or determinations. The period January to December, 1951, is covered by this Report. Details of the joint Commonwealth State legislation in respect of the coal-mining industry will be found in para. 3 (i) (*b*).

(i) *Commonwealth.*—The Conciliation and Arbitration Act (No. 1) 1951 amended the Principal Act in certain matters relating to the retiring age of Conciliation Commissioners. The Conciliation and Arbitration Acts Nos. 2 and 3 (1951) amended the Principal Act by reserving to the Court (as distinct from Conciliation Commissioners) the authority to deal with the provisions in awards relating to "annual or other periodical leave with pay, sick leave with pay or long-service leave with pay". The Conciliation and Arbitration Act (No. 2) 1951 also extended the power of the Court in matters concerning the non-observance of awards and inserted additional provisions regarding the rules of, and records to be kept by, associations registered under the Act, the election of officers of the associations and the holding of secret ballots.

The Snowy Mountains Hydro-electric Power Act 1951 conferred on the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration authority to settle industrial disputes and determine industrial matters relating to the working conditions of employees engaged on the Snowy Mountains Hydro-electric scheme.

(ii) *New South Wales.*—The New South Wales Industrial Arbitration Act was extensively amended by the Industrial Arbitration Amendment Act of 1951 which *inter alia* provided for the granting of long-service leave and sick leave to employees under State awards, removed certain limitations on the making of awards for rural industries, authorized investigation by the Industrial Commission of irregularities in the election of union officials, and eliminated the differential basic wage rate applicable to country districts. Except for the Broken Hill district which was not affected by the alteration, the result of the latter was to delete from awards the clause specifying the basic wage rate for adult males in country areas as three shillings per week less than the corresponding rate for the metropolitan area. Rates for females and juniors were affected proportionately.

(iii) *Victoria.*—During 1951 there was no amendment to the Factories and Shops Acts affecting working conditions.

(iv) *Queensland.*—On page 100 will be found particulars of variations in the basic wage determined by the Industrial Court.

There was no amendment to the Industrial Conciliation and Arbitration Acts during 1951.

(v) *South Australia.*—Particulars of variations in the "Living Wage" determined by the Board of Industry will be found on page 102.

The Industrial Code Amendment Act 1951 amended the Principal Act in various respects mainly of an administrative nature.

(vi) *Western Australia.*—Declarations of the basic wage made by the Industrial Court are referred to on page 104.

The Factories and Shops Amendment Act 1951 specified new minimum rates for junior employees in terms of percentages of basic wage rates for adults.

(vii) *Tasmania.*—Under the Wages Board Act 1951, provision was made for the determination of conditions under which employees covered by Wages Boards could be granted long-service leave.

(viii) *Australian Capital Territory.*—No legislation relating specifically to the terms of awards operating in the Australian Capital Territory was passed during 1951. Such matters are covered however, by the Commonwealth legislation outlined above (*see* para. 5 (i)).

§ 2. Rates of Wage and Hours of Labour.

1. **General.**—The collection of data respecting the nominal rates of wage payable in different callings and in occupations in various industries carried on in each State was first undertaken by this Bureau in the early part of the year 1913. Owing to the difficulty of ascertaining reliable particulars of the numbers of apprentices, improvers and other juvenile workers to whom progressive rates of wage fixed according to increasing age or experience were payable from year to year, the inquiry was confined to the rates of wage payable to adult workers only, and was further limited generally to those industries in operation within the metropolitan area of each State. In order to make the inquiry comprehensive, however, certain industries were included which were not carried on in the capital cities, e.g., mining, shipping, agriculture, and the pastoral industry. The particulars acquired were obtained primarily from awards, determinations and industrial agreements under Commonwealth and State Acts, and related to the minimum wage prescribed. In cases where no award, determination or agreement was in force, the ruling union or predominant rate of wage was ascertained from employers and secretaries of trade unions. For convenience of comparison weekly rates of wage were adopted. In many instances, however, the wages were based on daily or hourly rates, since in many industries and occupations in which employment is casual or intermittent wages are so fixed; hence the average weekly earnings in such occupations may fall short of the computed weekly rates. The information thus obtained referred to the weekly rate of wage in upwards of 400 specific occupations. Rates of wage were of course not available for each of these occupations in every State but the aggregate collection for the six States amounted to 1,569 male occupations or callings. These particulars furnished the necessary data for the computation of average rates of wage in various industrial groups,* and in each State and Australia as a whole. The average rate of wage for each industrial group in each State was computed by taking the arithmetical average† of the rates of wage payable for all classified occupations within that group. A more detailed system of weighting could not be applied owing to the difficulty in the past of obtaining satisfactory data as to the number of persons engaged in each of the occupations for which rates of wage had been obtained. Though a considerable amount of information as to the number of persons engaged in different industries and occupations was available from subsequent Census results, it was found impracticable to bring the classification of these results into line with the detailed classification of occupations in the various industries as set out in

* The adopted classification of industries is shown on page iii.
† The sum of the weekly rates of wage divided by the number of occupations included.

the awards and determinations. For final results for each State and for each industrial group throughout the States, however, a careful system of weighting according to industrial groups was adopted. For example, in computing the result for any State in any period, the computed average wage in each industrial group was multiplied by a number (weight) representing the relative number of all male workers engaged in that group of industries in the particular State. The sum of the products thus obtained, divided by the sum of the weights, represented the average wage for that State for the particular period. The weights used for each industrial group in the computations of the average wage for male and female occupations were published in issues of the Labour Report prior to No. 20 of 1929.

The results thus ascertained for the year 1913 were published in Labour Report No. 2, pp. 28–43. In the early part of the year 1914, the scope of the inquiry was considerably extended, and particulars included of the weekly rates of wage in respect of 930 specific occupations. The aggregate collection for the six States amounted to 4,256 adult occupations (3,948 male, and 308 female). The results obtained thereby to 30th April, 1914, were published in Labour Report No. 5, pp. 44–50. These results were further analysed, and the average number of working hours which constituted a full week's work in each occupation was ascertained and weighted in a similar manner to the rates of wage. This course was adopted in order to overcome the difficulty of making comparisons between States of the rates of wage in any specified occupation, since, in many instances, a different number of working hours constituted a full week's work in different States. By dividing the weighted average number of working hours into the weighted average weekly rate of wage, a more satisfactory standard of comparison was ascertained. Results obtained from these computations were given for each industrial group for each State.

Since 30th April, 1914, the number of occupations included in comparative computations has been slightly reduced. When technical change or some other factor has led to the disappearance of the original occupation from an award, agreement, or determination, the usual practice has been to substitute a similar occupation with a comparable rate of wage. In some cases, however, such a substitution could not be made and the slight drop in the total number of occupations included has resulted. The particulars of wages given in the Appendix (Sections VI. and VII.) to this Report include all the more important occupations. These have been taken from awards or determinations made by industrial tribunals, or from agreements registered under Commonwealth or State Acts.

To supplement the results thus obtained, investigations were made regarding rates of wage in past years with a view to showing their general trend in each State and in the several industrial groups. The total number of occupations for which particulars were available back to 1891 was 652.

The particulars given in this Chapter show variations in nominal wages from year to year in each State and in various industrial groups. Index-numbers are also given showing variations in effective wages in each State. The figures of nominal wages and hours are in course of revision to meet changes in industrial structure. The amounts should not be regarded as actual current averages but as an index of changes expressed in money and hour terms.

A comparison of wage-rates and hours of labour for certain occupations in Australia, Great Britain and Northern Ireland and New Zealand will be found in Section VIII. of the Appendix.

2. Adult Male Weekly Wages—States, 1891–1951.—The following table shows the weighted average nominal weekly rates of wage payable to adult male workers at the dates specified for a full week's work in each State and for Australia. Index-numbers are also given for each State with the average for Australia for the year 1911 as base (= 1,000) :—

Weekly Wage Rates(*a*) : Adult Males, States.

Weighted Average Nominal Weekly Rates payable for a Full Week's Work (excluding Overtime) and Index-numbers of Wage Rates.

Particulars.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Australia.
No. of Occupations included.(*b*)	870	894	615	562	477	466	3,884

RATES OF WAGE.

	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
31st December, 1891	44 1	40 5	46 6	41 7	52 4	38 6	43 5
,, ,, 1901	43 11	40 9	46 2	42 0	53 11	36 10	43 5
,, ,, 1911	51 5	50 6	51 1	51 11	59 0	41 0	51 3
,, ,, 1914	56 2	54 7	53 5	54 5	62 10	52 8	55 7
,, ,, 1921	95 10	93 7	96 8	89 5	95 0	91 8	94 6
,, ,, 1929	102 11	101 1	101 2	97 2	100 7	94 8	101 2
,, ,, 1931	93 5	82 2	89 0	75 0	84 1	79 9	86 10
,, ,, 1941	105 4	104 5	101 9	100 3	110 2	99 3	104 3
,, ,, 1946	130 11	128 11	128 0	121 4	125 7	125 2	128 6
,, ,, 1947	141 3	136 10	134 9	133 10	137 8	133 0	137 11
,, ,, 1948	159 9	155 5	151 4	153 7	156 6	153 2	156 4
,, ,, 1949	171 11	168 11	167 10	165 3	171 6	165 4	169 8
,, ,, 1950	209 6	204 5	199 10	200 6	208 3	199 7	205 6
31st March, 1951	216 8	211 11	205 4	207 6	214 2	203 8	212 3
30th June, 1951	228 8	222 8	221 2	218 3	228 6	224 2	224 10
30th September, 1951	240 2	233 9	230 0	229 7	240 0	235 3	235 10
31st December, 1951	255 0	245 5	240 10	241 8	251 4	247 3	248 7

INDEX-NUMBERS.

(*Base : Weighted Average Wage for Australia* (51*s.* 3*d.*), 1911 = 1,000.)

31st December, 1891	861	789	908	811	1,022	751	848
,, ,, 1901	858	796	901	819	1,052	719	848
,, ,, 1911	1,003	985	997	1,013	1,152	799	1,000
,, ,, 1914	1,096	1,065	1,042	1,062	1.226	1,028	1,085
,, ,, 1921	1,869	1,826	1,886	1,745	1,853	1,788	1,844
,, ,, 1929	2,007	1,972	1,975	1,896	1,963	1,848	1,974
,, ,, 1931	1,823	1,603	1,737	1,463	1,641	1,556	1,694
,, ,, 1941	2,056	2,037	1,985	1,957	2,149	1,937	2.034
,, ,, 1946	2,554	2,515	2,498	2,368	2,450	2,442	2,507
,, ,, 1947	2,757	2,670	2,630	2,612	2,686	2,595	2,690
,, ,, 1948	3,117	3.032	2,953	2,997	3,054	2,988	3,050
,, ,, 1949	3,355	3,296	3,276	3,225	3,346	3,227	3,310
,, ,, 1950	4,088	3,989	3,900	3,911	4,064	3,895	4,009
31st March, 1951	4,228	4,135	4,007	4,049	4,179	3,974	4,142
30th June, 1951	4,461	4,345	4,315	4,259	4,459	4,373	4,387
30th September, 1951	4,686	4,561	4,488	4,479	4,684	4,590	4,601
31st December, 1951	4,975	4,789	4,699	4,715	4,904	4,825	4,850

(*a*) The figures of nominal wages and hours of labour are in course of revision to meet changes in industrial structure. The amounts shown should not be regarded as actual current averages but as an index of changes expressed in money and hour terms. (*b*) As at 31st December, 1951.

3. Adult Male Weekly Wages—Australia—Industrial Groups, 1891–1951.—The following table shows for Australia (*a*) the weighted average weekly rate of wage in each of the industrial groups, and (*b*) the weighted average wage for all groups combined, at the dates specified. Index-numbers are also given for each industrial group with the average for all groups for the year 1911 as base (= 1,000) :—

Weekly Wage Rates(*a*) : Adult Males, Industrial Groups.

Weighted Average Nominal Weekly Rates payable for a Full Week's Work (excluding Overtime) and Index-numbers of Wages Rates in Each Industrial Group.

Date.	I. Wood, Furniture, etc.	II. Engineering, etc.	III. Food, Drink, etc.	IV. Clothing, Textiles, etc.	V. Books, Printing, etc.	VI. Other Manufacturing.	VII. Building.	VIII. Mining, etc.	IX. Railways, etc.	X. Other Land Transport.	XI. Shipping, etc.(*b*)	XII. Pastoral, etc.(*b*)	XIII. Domestic, etc.(*c*)	XIV. Miscellaneous.	All Industrial Groups.
	INDUSTRIAL GROUP.														
RATES OF WAGE.															
31st December, 1891 ..	*s. d.* 52 5	*s. d.* 47 8	*s. d.* 38 2	*s. d.* 36 8	*s. d.* 53 5	*s. d.* 46 4	*s. d.* 50 6	*s. d.* 58 1	*s. d.* 50 10	*s. d.* 39 0	*s. d.* 38 2	*s. d.* 34 10	*s. d.* 32 10	*s. d.* 39 7	*s. d.* 43 5
,, ,, 1901 ..	52 3	48 5	44 7	36 3	51 0	46 5	53 10	54 8	52 4	40 9	38 5	32 1	30 8	38 10	43 5
,, ,, 1911 ..	57 8	54 6	50 9	50 3	58 11	51 11	61 2	61 2	57 0	46 7	44 7	43 0	45 5	47 7	51 3
,, ,, 1914 ..	59 6	57 9	55 8	53 0	63 10	56 0	65 5	65 2	59 8	52 8	49 10	49 5	47 11	54 0	55 7
,, ,, 1921 ..	98 2	98 2	93 10	93 3	104 7	95 0	102 5	105 4	97 5	90 2	101 8	89 0	84 2	91 1	94 6
,, ,, 1929 ..	104 10	103 6	100 10	99 6	119 1	102 2	113 0	110 7	105 2	96 9	107 0	95 6	92 6	96 8	101 2
,, ,, 1931 ..	85 7	86 3	88 6	83 11	102 0	85 4	98 9	102 5	86 7	83 11	81 10	80 3	85 3	83 11	86 10
,, ,, 1939 ..	100 1	99 3	96 9	93 2	114 3	95 8	106 5	109 1	96 6	92 10	98 6	84 0	89 11	92 10	95 3
,, ,, 1941 ..	108 5	110 0	106 1	105 7	119 6	107 0	116 11	115 1	108 8	101 11	106 9	93 6	97 10	101 2	104 3
,, ,, 1946 ..	129 2	129 1	126 9	126 11	148 2	128 1	141 10	134 6	130 10	121 7	131 6	129 0	127 4	122 6	128 6
,, ,, 1947 ..	140 2	144 0	134 8	132 8	158 7	136 8	154 0	148 4	142 3	128 6	136 4	136 5	126 11	130 10	137 11
,, ,, 1948 ..	155 6	155 10	151 6	153 7	177 2	153 11	171 9	163 5	156 1	145 8	182 0	158 1	141 5	148 3	156 4
,, ,, 1949 ..	166 7	166 1	166 2	164 2	194 7	165 1	183 0	175 7	167 3	160 0	192 4	174 7	154 9	162 0	169 8
,, ,, 1950 ..	199 8	198 2	199 11	202 10	228 9	199 0	215 11	211 0	199 2	192 7	230 2	222 2	186 8	192 9	205 6
31st March, 1951 ..	206 9	205 9	207 3	205 5	242 7	206 9	223 5	217 8	206 6	200 0	237 6	226 9	194 0	200 3	212 3
30th June, 1951 ..	214 5	213 0	214 9	216 10	250 3	213 10	232 2	225 1	214 6	207 9	244 9	259 2	200 5	207 8	224 10
30th September, 1951 ..	226 8	225 4	227 2	221 4	262 5	226 10	245 0	237 6	226 8	221 5	260 4	264 7	212 7	220 0	235 10
31st December, 1951 ..	238 8	237 1	239 3	242 10	274 5	238 10	259 0	249 2	238 0	233 2	271 11	279 1	224 8	232 0	248 7
INDEX-NUMBERS. (*Base : Weighted Average Wage for Australia* (51*s.* 3*d.*), 1911 = 1,000.)															
31st December, 1891 ..	1,023	931	745	716	1,043	904	986	1,134	992	772	745	680	641	773	848
,, ,, 1901 ..	1,019	945	871	708	996	907	1,050	1,067	1,021	795	751	627	598	759	848
,, ,, 1911 ..	1,125	1,064	991	981	1,149	1,013	1,213	1,194	1,113	910	871	839	887	929	1,000
,, ,, 1914 ..	1,161	1,127	1,085	1,034	1,246	1,093	1,270	1,272	1,165	1,026	972	965	935	1,054	1,085
,, ,, 1921 ..	1,916	1,915	1,832	1,819	2,040	1,854	1,999	2,056	1,901	1,760	1,984	1,736	1,642	1,778	1,844
,, ,, 1929 ..	2,046	2,019	1,967	1,942	2,323	1,994	2,205	2,157	2,052	1,888	2,087	1,863	1,804	1,886	1,974
,, ,, 1931 ..	1,669	1,683	1,727	1,638	1,991	1,664	1,926	1,999	1,690	1,638	1,596	1,566	1,663	1,637	1,694
,, ,, 1939 ..	1,953	1,930	1,888	1,817	2,229	1,867	2,076	2,142	1,884	1,812	1,922	1,639	1,755	1,811	1,858
,, ,, 1941 ..	2,116	2,147	2,071	2,060	2,332	2,088	2,282	2,245	2,121	1,989	2,082	1,825	1,908	1,974	2,034
,, ,, 1946 ..	2,520	2,519	2,473	2,476	2,891	2,499	2,768	2,624	2,553	2,372	2,566	2,517	2,289	2,390	2,507
,, ,, 1947 ..	2,735	2,811	2,628	2,589	3,094	2,667	3,005	2,895	2,775	2,507	2,661	2,662	2,476	2,553	2,690
,, ,, 1948 ..	3,034	3,041	2,956	2,997	3,457	3,003	3,352	3,189	3,045	2,843	3,551	3,085	2,759	2,893	3,050
,, ,, 1949 ..	3,250	3,241	3,243	3,204	3,796	3,221	3,570	3,426	3,263	3,123	3,753	3,407	3,020	3,161	3,310
,, ,, 1950 ..	3,896	3,867	3,901	3,957	4,463	3,883	4,212	4,118	3,887	3,757	4,491	4,335	3,943	3,761	4,009
31st March, 1951 ..	4,035	4,015	4,044	4,009	4,734	4,034	4,360	4,247	4,030	3,903	4,633	4,425	3,786	3,907	4,142
30th June, 1951 ..	4,183	4,155	4,190	4,230	4,882	4,172	4,530	4,391	4,185	4,054	4,775	5,056	3,910	4,052	4,387
30th September, 1951 ..	4,423	4,397	4,433	4,318	5,120	4,427	4,781	4,634	4,422	4,321	5,080	5,163	4,147	4,293	4,601
31st December, 1951 ..	4,656	4,626	4,668	4,738	5,355	4,661	5,054	4,861	4,643	4,550	5,306	5,445	4,384	4,527	4,850

(*a*) *See* note (*a*) to table on page 59. (*b*) Including the value of victualling and accommodation where supplied. (*c*) Including the value of board and lodging where supplied.

4. **Adult Female Weekly Wages—States, 1914–1951.**—The index-numbers given in the preceding paragraphs for male adult workers were computed with the weighted average wage in 1911 as base (= 1,000). In the case of females, however, it has not been possible to secure information for years prior to 1914, and the index-numbers are therefore computed with the weighted average rate of wage payable to adult female workers in Australia at 30th April, 1914, as base (= 1,000).

The following table shows the weighted average nominal weekly rate of wage payable to adult female workers for a full week's work in each State and Australia at the dates specified. Index-numbers are also given for each State with the average for Australia at 30th April, 1914, as base (=1,000).

Weekly Wage Rates(*a*) **: Adult Females, States.**

Weighted Average Nominal Weekly Rates payable for a Full Week's Work (excluding Overtime) and Index-numbers of Wage Rates.

Particulars.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Australia.
No. of Occupations included.(*b*)	84	87	38	47	24	32	312

RATES OF WAGE.

	s. d.	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*
31st December, 1914	26 10	27 9	27 1	24 1	37 4	25 10	27 5
,, ,, 1921	49 0	47 10	50 3	45 2	56 4	47 6	48 8
,, ,, 1929	53 11	54 1	54 10	51 4	58 10	53 9	54 1
,, ,, 1931	49 8	45 10	47 11	43 1	51 7	45 8	47 5
,, ,, 1939	53 3	51 9	55 2	49 7	55 8	50 8	52 8
,, ,, 1941	57 11	58 4	59 6	55 5	60 4	56 7	58 2
,, ,, 1946	80 4	82 6	82 4	76 0	73 10	77 8	80 9
,, ,, 1947	84 3	88 6	85 10	80 10	80 1	81 11	85 8
,, ,, 1948	100 0	103 1	98 4	95 1	93 5	96 8	100 4
,, ,, 1949	108 1	112 4	108 5	101 0	105 5	106 4	109 1
31st March, 1950	109 5	114 3	109 8	102 4	106 2	107 5	110 9
30th June, 1950	114 3	120 7	115 7	108 3	112 9	114 5	116 5
30th September, 1950	115 10	122 1	116 11	109 4	114 0	116 0	117 10
31st December, 1950	139 11	142 11	135 11	142 1	132 3	137 2	140 5
31st March, 1951	144 3	146 7	137 11	145 9	134 6	141 2	144 1
30th June, 1951	151 0	153 11	145 0	152 4	142 7	149 0	151 2
30th September, 1951	157 11	160 0	149 2	158 3	146 10	153 9	157 2
31st December, 1951	171 1	172 10	161 7	171 4	163 2	168 7	170 4

INDEX-NUMBERS.

(*Base : Weighted Average Wage for Australia* (27*s.* 2*d.*), 30*th April*, 1914 = 1,000.)

31st December, 1914	987	1,022	996	885	1,373	950	1,008
,, ,, 1921	1,803	1,761	1,849	1,661	1,074	1,749	1,790
,, ,, 1929	1,983	1,990	2,020	1,888	2,165	1,978	1,990
,, ,, 1931	1,828	1,688	1,765	1,584	1,900	1,681	1,746
,, ,, 1939	1,960	1,906	2,031	1,826	2,049	1,866	1,938
,, ,, 1941	2,133	2,148	2,191	2,038	2,220	2,082	2,141
,, ,, 1946	2,956	3,035	3,031	2,797	2,718	2,860	2,972
,, ,, 1947	3,102	3,256	3,160	2,976	2,947	3,014	3,152
,, ,, 1948	3,681	3,795	3,618	3,499	3,438	3,559	3,694
,, ,, 1949	3,979	4,134	3,990	3,716	3,880	3,915	4,015
31st March, 1950	4,028	4,205	4,038	3,767	3,906	3,955	4,072
30th June, 1950	4,206	4,438	4,255	3,984	4,151	4,211	4,284
30th September, 1950	4,264	4,493	4,303	4,023	4,194	4,269	4,338
31st December, 1950	5,150	5,259	5,003	5,229	4,866	5,050	5,169
31st March, 1951	5,308	5,395	5,075	5,363	4,951	5,197	5,303
30th June, 1951	5,558	5,666	5,337	5,606	5,248	5,484	5,565
30th September, 1951	5,811	5,889	5,491	5,825	5,404	5,660	5,786
31st December, 1951	6,296	6,362	5,948	6,305	6,007	6,204	6,268

(*a*) *See* note (*a*) to table on page 59. (*b*) As at 31st December, 1951.

5. Adult Female Weekly Wages—Australia—Industrial Groups, 1914–1951.—The following table shows for Australia (*a*) the weighted average weekly rate of wage in each of the industrial groups in which females are mainly employed, and (*b*) the weighted average wage for all groups combined, at the dates specified. Index-numbers are also given for each industrial group with the average for all groups at 30th April, 1914, as base (= 1,000).

Weekly Wage Rates(*a*) : Adult Females, Industrial Groups.

Weighted Average Nominal Weekly Rates payable for a Full Week's Work (excluding Overtime) and Index-numbers of Wage Rates in Industrial Groups.

Date.	Industrial Group.					
	III. Food, Drink, etc.	IV. Clothing, Textiles, etc.	I., II., V., and VI. All Other Manufacturing.	XIII. Domestic, Hotels, etc.(*b*)	XIV. Miscellaneous.	All Groups.
RATES OF WAGE.						
	s. d.	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*
31st December, 1914 ..	23 5	24 11	27 0	30 2	31 4	27 5
,, ,, 1921 ..	43 9	48 7	48 0	48 6	50 0	48 8
,, ,, 1929 ..	49 4	54 4	53 11	54 9	53 10	54 1
,, ,, 1931 ..	44 4	45 5	46 11	50 9	49 10	47 5
,, ,, 1939 ..	48 9	50 9	51 11	54 5	56 8	52 8
,, ,, 1941 ..	53 5	57 4	58 0	58 9	60 7	58 2
,, ,, 1946 ..	74 9	84 7	79 5	72 9	81 0	80 9
,, ,, 1947 ..	83 3	87 7	90 2	76 7	88 5	85 8
,, ,, 1948 ..	95 10	101 7	103 3	89 3	107 9	100 4
,, ,, 1949 ..	105 5	109 5	111 11	97 5	119 1	109 1
31st March, 1950	108 0	110 0	115 0	99 5	121 7	110 9
30th June, 1950	111 4	119 7	117 3	101 6	123 8	116 5
30th September, 1950 ..	113 10	120 1	119 6	103 6	126 1	117 10
31st December, 1950 ..	135 9	139 2	147 1	132 1	149 9	140 5
31st March, 1951	141 8	140 8	152 10	137 0	156 1	144 1
30th June, 1951	146 10	149 8	158 5	142 4	161 4	151 2
30th September, 1951 ..	155 8	152 2	168 3	151 5	170 8	157 2
31st December, 1951 ..	164 2	169 6	177 1	160 10	179 10	170 4
INDEX-NUMBERS. (*Base : Weighted Average Wage for Australia (27s. 2d.), 30th April, 1914 = 1,000.*)						
31st December, 1914 ..	862	917	994	1,110	1,153	1,008
,, ,, 1921 ..	1,609	1,789	1,766	1,787	1,841	1,790
,, ,, 1929 ..	1,815	1,999	1,984	2,015	1,982	1,990
,, ,, 1931 ..	1,630	1,672	1,728	1,869	1,834	1,746
,, ,, 1939 ..	1,795	1,869	1,910	2,003	2,085	1,938
,, ,, 1941 ..	1,967	2,110	2,134	2,163	2,229	2,141
,, ,, 1946 ..	2,751	3,113	2,922	2,678	2,980	2,972
,, ,, 1947 ..	3,064	3,222	3,317	2,820	3,253	3,152
,, ,, 1948 ..	3,526	3,739	3,802	3,284	3,967	3,694
,, ,, 1949 ..	3,879	4,026	4,118	3,586	4,384	4,015
31st March, 1950	3,975	4,049	4,232	3,660	4,476	4,072
30th June, 1950	4,098	4,400	4,315	3,735	4,552	4,284
30th September, 1950 ..	4,190	4,421	4,399	3,811	4,642	4,338
31st December, 1950 ..	4,996	5,121	5,412	4,861	5,512	5,169
31st March, 1951	5,213	5,176	5,626	5,042	5,744	5,303
30th June, 1951	5,404	5,508	5,829	5,239	5,938	5,565
30th September, 1951 ..	5,728	5,601	6,194	5,572	6,283	5,786
31st December, 1951 ..	6,043	6,238	6,517	5,919	6,618	6,268

(*a*) *See* note (*a*) to table on page 59. (*b*) Including the value of board and lodging where supplied.

6. Weekly and Hourly Rates of Wage, and Weekly Hours of Labour, 31st December, 1951.—(i) *General.*—The rates of wage referred to in the preceding paragraphs are the minima payable for a full week's work (excluding overtime). The number of hours constituting a full week's work differs, however, in some instances, between various trades and occupations

in each State, and between the same trades and occupations in the several States. To secure what may be for some purposes a better comparison, the results in the preceding paragraphs are reduced to a common basis, namely, the rate of wage per hour in industrial groups in each State and in all States. In the Appendix (Sections VI. and VII.) details are given of the number of hours worked per week in the various industries. The following tables include the average number of hours per week in industrial groups for each State.

The tables show (*a*) the average weekly wage; (*b*) the average number of working hours per week for a full week's work, and (*c*) the average hourly wage for adult male and female workers in each State and industrial group except Groups XI. (Shipping, etc.) and XII. (Pastoral, Agricultural, etc.). Some of the occupations included in the latter two groups are of a casual or seasonal nature, and the hours of labour are not generally regulated either by awards or determinations of industrial tribunals or in other ways. Hence the necessary definite particulars for the computation of average working hours and hourly rates of wages are not available.

(ii) *Adult Males.*—The following table shows the average nominal weekly and hourly rates of wage payable to adult male workers and the weekly hours of labour at 31st December, 1951.

Weekly and Hourly Wage Rates and Weekly Hours of Labour(*a*) : Adult Males, Industrial Groups.

Average Rates of Wage Payable and Weekly Hours of Labour, 31st December, 1951.

Industrial Group.	Particulars.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Australia. (*b*)
I. Wood, Furniture, etc.	Weekly Wage	248/3	238/5	218/4	234/2	241/9	238/0	238/8
	Working Hours	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00
	Hourly Wage	6/2½	5/11½	5/5½	5/10¼	6/0½	5/11½	5/11½
II. Engineering, Metal Works, etc.	Weekly Wage	243/10	233/10	224/2	230/9	245/5	239/10	237/1
	Working Hours	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00
	Hourly Wage	6/1¼	5/10¼	5/7¼	5/9¼	6/1½	6/0	5/11
III. Food, Drink, etc.	Weekly Wage	244/1	247/0	219/4	237/9	238/11	240/9	239/3
	Working Hours	40.00	39.93	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	39.98
	Hourly Wage	6/1¼	6/2¼	5/5¾	5/11¼	5/11¾	6/0¼	5/11¾
IV. Clothing, Textiles, etc.	Weekly Wage	240/6	242/1	248/4	248/4	251/2	240/7	242/10
	Working Hours	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00
	Hourly Wage	6/0¼	6/0½	6/2½	6/2½	6/3¼	6/0¼	6/0¾
V. Books, Printing, etc.	Weekly Wage	282/4	276/2	252/0	263/8	272/5	272/5	274/5
	Working Hours	40.00	39.51	40.00	40.00	37.69	40.00	39.72
	Hourly Wage	7/0¾	7/0	6/3½	6/7	7/2¾	6/9¾	6/11
VI. Other Manufacturing	Weekly Wage	245/0	236/8	218/1	238/6	241/1	240/3	238/10
	Working Hours	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00
	Hourly Wage	6/1½	5/11	5/5½	5/11½	6/0¼	6/0	5/11¾
VII. Building	Weekly Wage	269/8	256/5	241/1	249/8	256/4	248/5	259/0
	Working Hours	39.94	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	39.98
	Hourly Wage	6/9	6/5	6/0¼	6/3	6/5	6/2½	6/5¾
VIII. Mining(*d*)	Weekly Wage	254/1	242/0	231/11	236/1	c266/7	241/7	249/2
	Working Hours	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	38.15	40.00	39.69
	Hourly Wage	6/4½	6/0½	5/9½	5/10¾	6/11¾	6/0½	6/3¼
IX. Rail and Tram Services	Weekly Wage	245/8	238/5	222/8	229/4	239/1	236/9	238/0
	Working Hours	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00
	Hourly Wage	6/1¾	5/11½	5/6¾	5/8¾	5/11¾	5/11	5/11½
X. Other Land Transport	Weekly Wage	243/11	228/7	215/9	225/8	230/8	231/4	233/2
	Working Hours	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00
	Hourly Wage	6/1¼	5/8½	5/4¾	5/7¾	5/9¼	5/9½	5/10

(*a*) *See* note (*a*) to table on page 59. (*b*) Weighted average. (*c*) Excludes district allowances in the gold-mining industry. (*d*) Average rates of wage and hours prevailing at the principal mining centres in each State.

Weekly and Hourly Wage Rates and Weekly Hours of Labour(*a*) : Adult Males, Industrial Groups—*continued.*

Average Rates of Wage Payable and Weekly Hours of Labour, 31st December, 1951—continued.

Industrial Group.	Particulars.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Australia (*b*)
XI. Shipping, etc. ..	Weekly Wage*cd*	269/10	274/2	275/6	271/5	271/11	272/8	271/11
XII. Pastoral, Agricultural, etc.	Weekly Wage*de*	281/9	270/11	289/9	273/1	279/2	270/7	279/1
XIII. Domestic, Hotels, etc.	Weekly Wage(*e*)	234/4	224/10	203/6	214/3	222/10	220/4	224/8
	Working Hours	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00
	Hourly Wage(*e*)	5/10¼	5/7½	5/1	5/4¼	5/6¾	5/6	5/7½
XIV. Miscellaneous ..	Weekly Wage	241/4	233/10	211/9	219/2	229/4	227/5	232/0
	Working Hours	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00
	Hourly Wage	6/0½	5/10¾	5/3½	5/5¾	5/8¾	5/8¼	5/9½
All Groups(*b*)	Weekly Wage	255/0	245/5	240/10	241/8	251/4	247/3	248/7
All Groups except XI. and XII.(*b*) ..	Weekly Wage	247/5	239/2	221/3	230/3	244/6	236/4	239/6
	Working Hours	39.99	39.98	40.00	40.00	39.51	40.00	39.95
	Hourly Wage	6/2¼	5/11¾	5/6½	5/9	6/2¼	5/11	6/0

(*a*) *See* note (*a*) to table on page 59. (*b*) Weighted average. (*c*) Average rates of wage are for occupations other than Masters, Officers and Engineers in the Merchant Marine Service, and include value of victualling and accommodation, where supplied. (*d*) Definite particulars for the computation of average working hours and hourly rates of wages are not available. (*e*) Includes the estimated value of board and lodging, where supplied.

(iii) *Adult Females.*—The following table shows the average nominal weekly and hourly rates of wage payable to adult female workers and the weekly hours of labour at 31st December, 1951 :—

Weekly and Hourly Wage Rates and Weekly Hours of Labour(*a*) : Adult Females, Industrial Groups.

Average Rates of Wage Payable and Weekly Hours of Labour, 31st December, 1951.

Industrial Group.	Particulars.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Australia. (*b*)
III. Food, Drink, etc. ..	Weekly Wage	165/8	165/8	142/10	172/3	163/3	171/3	164/2
	Working Hours	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00
	Hourly Wage	4/1¾	4/1¾	3/6¾	4/3¾	4/1	4/3½	4/1¼
IV. Clothing, Textiles, etc. ..	Weekly Wage	167/9	168/11	172/8	172/8	174/0	171/3	169/6
	Working Hours	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00
	Hourly Wage	4/2¼	4/2¾	4/3¾	4/3¾	4/4¼	4/3½	4/2¾
I., II., V., & VI. All Other Manufacturing	Weekly Wage	178/7	177/9	162/1	181/5	..	169/0	177/1
	Working Hours	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	..	40.00	40.00
	Hourly Wage	4/5½	4/5¼	4/0¾	4/6½	..	4/2¾	4/5
XIII. Domestic, Hotels, etc. ..	Weekly Wage(*c*)	163/6	169/0	141/9	170/0	152/5	162/0	160/10
	Working Hours	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00
	Hourly Wage(*c*)	4/1	4/2¾	3/6½	4/3	3/9¾	4/0½	4/0¼
XIV. Shop Assistants, Clerks, etc.	Weekly Wage	181/10	186/5	165/0	167/6	..	..	179/10
	Working Hours	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	..	..	40.00
	Hourly Wage	4/6½	4/8	4/1½	4/2¼	..	..	4/6
All Groups(*b*)	Weekly Wage	171/1	172/10	161/7	171/4	163/2	168/7	170/4
	Working Hours	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00
	Hourly Wage	4/3¼	4/3¾	4/0½	4/3½	4/1	4/2½	4/3

(*a*) *See* note (*a*) to table on page 59. (*b*) Weighted average. (*c*) Includes the estimated value of board and lodging, where supplied, in order that the rate may be comparable with those paid in other industries.

7. **Adult Male Hourly Wages—States, 1914-1951.**—The following table shows the weighted average nominal hourly rates of wage payable to adult male workers in each State at the dates specified. Index-numbers are also given for each State with the average for Australia at 30th April, 1914 as base (= 1,000).

Hourly Wage Rates(*a*) : Adult Males, States.

Weighted Average Nominal Hourly Rates (to the nearest farthing) payable and Index-numbers of Hourly Rates.

Date.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australia.
RATES OF WAGE.							
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
31st December, 1914	1 2	1 1¾	1 1¾	1 1¾	1 4¼	1 1	1 2
" " 1921	2 1¼	2 0¼	2 2	1 10¾	2 1	1 11½	2 0¾
" " 1929	2 4	2 2½	2 4	2 1¼	2 2¾	2 0½	2 3
" " 1931	2 2¼	1 9¼	2 0½	1 7¼	1 10½	1 8¾	1 11½
" " 1939	2 3½	2 1½	2 3½	1 11½	2 4	2 0	2 2½
" " 1941	2 5¾	2 5	2 5¼	2 3¼	2 7¼	2 3	2 5¼
" " 1946	3 0¼	2 11¼	2 11	2 8¾	2 10¾	2 9¾	2 11¼
" " 1947	3 5½	3 1¾	3 0¾	3 1½	3 2½	3 1	3 3
" " 1948	3 11½	3 10½	3 8½	3 9¼	3 11	3 9½	3 10½
" " 1949	4 3	4 2¼	4 0¼	4 0¾	4 3½	4 1	4 2¼
" " 1950	5 1¼	5 0¼	4 8½	4 9¾	5 1¾	4 11	5 0
" " 1951	6 2¼	5 11¾	5 6½	5 9	6 2¼	5 11	6 0
INDEX-NUMBERS.							
(Base : Weighted Average for Australia (13.96d.), 30th April, 1914 = 1,000.)							
31st December, 1914	1,010	990	985	993	1,173	936	1,009
" " 1921	1,817	1,741	1,865	1,637	1,796	1,675	1,779
" " 1929	2,011	1,895	2,001	1,808	1,923	1,751	1,940
" " 1931	1,873	1,527	1,749	1,383	1,617	1,480	1,676
" " 1939	1,963	1,834	1,979	1,692	2,001	1,717	1,903
" " 1941	2,138	2,071	2,092	1,956	2,240	1,938	2,098
" " 1946	2,593	2,533	2,509	2,339	2,491	2,413	2,529
" " 1947	2,974	2,709	2,638	2,692	2,754	2,648	2,797
" " 1948	3,399	3,322	3,180	3,246	3,364	3,254	3,327
" " 1949	3,654	3,605	3,463	3,484	3,691	3,515	3,599
" " 1950	4,393	4,318	4,047	4,142	4,430	4,230	4,301
" " 1951	5,318	5,142	4,756	4,948	5,319	5,079	5,153

(*a*) Weighted average hourly rates of wage for all industrial groups except Groups XI. (Shipping, etc.), and XII. (Pastoral, Agricultural, etc.). Working hours have not been generally regulated by industrial tribunals for some of the occupations classified in Industrial Groups XI. and XII. *See also* note (*a*) to table on page 59.

8. **Adult Female Hourly Wages—States, 1914 to 1951.**—The following table shows the weighted average nominal hourly rates of wage payable to adult female workers in each State at the dates specified. Index-numbers are also given for each State with the average for Australia at 30th April, 1914 as base (= 1,000).

Hourly Wage Rates(a) : Adult Females, States.

Weighted Average Nominal Hourly Rates (to the nearest farthing) payable and Index-numbers of Hourly Rates.

Date.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australia.
	RATES OF WAGE.						
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
31st December, 1914	0 6½	0 6¾	0 6½	0 5¾	0 9	0 6	0 6¾
" " 1921	1 1	1 0½	1 1¼	0 11¾	1 2¾	1 0	1 0¾
" " 1929	1 2¾	1 2½	1 3	1 1½	1 3½	1 2	1 2½
" " 1931	1 1½	1 0	1 1	0 11¼	1 1½	1 0	1 0¾
" " 1939	1 2½	1 2	1 3	1 1	1 2¾	1 1½	1 2¼
" " 1941	1 3¾	1 3¾	1 4¼	1 3	1 4½	1 3½	1 3¾
" " 1946	1 10	1 10½	1 10½	1 8¾	1 8¼	1 9¼	1 10
" " 1947	2 0¼	2 0¼	1 11½	1 11	1 9¾	1 10¼	1 11¾
" " 1948	2 6	2 7	2 5½	2 4½	2 4	2 5	2 6
" " 1949	2 8⅓	2 9¾	2 8½	2 6¼	2 7½	2 8	2 8¾
" " 1950	3 6	3 6¾	3 4¾	3 6½	3 3¾	3 5¼	3 6¼
" " 1951	4 3¼	4 3¾	4 0½	4 3½	4 1	4 2½	4 3
	INDEX-NUMBERS.						
	(Base : Weighted Average for Australia (6.64d.), *30th April*, 1914 = 1,000.)						
31st December, 1914	983	1,035	983	881	1,364	920	1,009
" " 1921	1,965	1,878	1,989	1,770	2,215	1,794	1,923
" " 1929	2,218	2,154	2,252	2,015	2,333	2,108	2,182
" " 1931	2,044	1,822	1,943	1,688	2,045	1,791	1,910
" " 1939	2,193	2,107	2,267	1,952	2,217	2,032	2,145
" " 1941	2,387	2,387	2,444	2,274	2,477	2,324	2,387
" " 1946	3,307	3,373	3,383	3,122	3,033	3,191	3,315
" " 1947	3,646	3,634	3,527	3,464	3,289	3,363	3,593
" " 1948	4,518	4,658	4,441	4,295	4,220	4,369	4,535
" " 1949	4,884	5,074	4,898	4,562	4,762	4,806	4,929
" " 1950	6,322	6,455	6,142	6,419	5,973	6,199	6,345
" " 1951	6,296	6,362	5,948	6,305	6,007	6,204	6,268

(a) *See* note (a) to table on page 59.

9. **Nominal Weekly Hours of Labour—Adult Males, States.**—The following table shows the weighted average nominal hours of labour (excluding overtime) in a full working week for adult male workers in each State and Australia at 31st December, 1914 to 1951. Index-numbers are given for each State with the weighted average hours of labour for Australia at 30th April, 1914, as base (= 1,000).

Weekly Hours of Labour (excluding Overtime)(a) : Adult Males, States.

Weighted Average Nominal Hours of Labour (excluding Overtime) worked during a Full Working Week and Index-numbers of Hours of Labour.

Date.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australia.
			WEEKLY HOURS OF LABOUR.				
31st December, 1914	49.35	48.66	48.64	48.59	48.18	48.62	48.87
" " 1921	45.66	46.95	45.52	47.07	46.24	46.84	46.22
" " 1929	44.14	46.83	43.96	46.83	45.58	47.09	45.34
" " 1931	44.22	46.88	44.98	46.83	45.55	46.76	45.51
" " 1939	43.92	44.61	43.46	45.83	44.33	45.33	44.29
" " 1941	43.68	44.12	43.43	44.49	43.13	44.42	43.83
" " 1946	43.50	43.82	43.18	44.07	43.15	43.38	43.57
" " 1947	41.11	43.68	43.18	42.84	43.15	43.27	42.51
" " 1948	40.00	39.99	40.00	40.00	39.57	40.00	39.96
" " 1949	39.99	39.99	40.00	40.00	39.54	40.00	39.96
" " 1950	39.99	39.99	40.00	40.00	39.54	40.00	39.96
" " 1951	39.99	39.98	40.00	40.00	39.51	40.00	39.95
			INDEX-NUMBERS.				
			(*Base : Weighted Average for Australia* (48.93), *30th April*, 1914 = 1,000.)				
31st December, 1914	1,009	994	994	993	985	994	999
" " 1921	933	960	930	962	945	957	945
" " 1929	902	957	898	957	932	962	927
" " 1931	904	958	919	957	931	956	930
" " 1939	898	912	888	937	906	926	905
" " 1941	893	902	888	909	881	908	896
" " 1946	889	896	882	901	882	887	890
" " 1947	840	893	882	876	882	884	869
" " 1948	817	817	817	817	809	817	817
" " 1949	817	817	817	817	808	817	817
" " 1950	817	817	817	817	808	817	817
" " 1951	817	817	817	817	807	817	816

(a) Weighted average working hours per week for all industrial groups except Groups XI. (Shipping, etc.), and XII. (Pastoral, Agricultural, etc.). Working hours have not been generally regulated by industrial tribunals for some of the occupations classified in Industrial Groups XI. and XII. *See also* note (a) to table on page 59.

10. **Nominal Weekly Hours of Labour—Adult Females, States.**—The following table shows the weighted average nominal hours of labour (excluding overtime) in a full working week for adult female workers in each State and Australia at 31st December, 1914 to 1951. Index-numbers are given for each State with the weighted average hours of labour for Australia at 30th April, 1914, as base (= 1,000).

Weekly Hours of Labour (excluding Overtime)(a) : Adult Females, States.

Weighted Average Nominal Hours of Labour (excluding Overtime) worked during a Full Working Week and Index-numbers of Hours of Labour.

Date.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australia.
WEEKLY HOURS OF LABOUR.							
31st December, 1914	49.34	48.54	49.82	49.33	49.44	50.76	49.11
,, ,, 1921	45.06	46.04	45.66	46.10	45.97	47.86	45.69
,, ,, 1929	43.93	45.40	44.01	46.03	45.57	46.07	44.79
,, ,, 1931	43.93	45.44	44.56	46.03	45.57	46.07	44.88
,, ,, 1939	43.88	44.42	44.01	45.96	45.38	45.10	44.36
,, ,, 1941	43.88	44.19	44.00	44.00	44.00	44.00	44.03
,, ,, 1946	43.88	44.19	44.00	43.99	44.00	44.00	44.03
,, ,, 1947	41.78	43.99	44.00	42.19	44.00	44.00	43.08
,, ,, 1948	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00
,, ,, 1949	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00
,, ,, 1950	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00
,, ,, 1951	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00
INDEX-NUMBERS. (*Base : Weighted Average for Australia* (49.08), *30th April*, 1914 = 1,000.)							
31st December, 1914	1,005	989	1,015	1,005	1,007	1,034	1,001
,, ,, 1921	918	938	930	939	937	975	931
,, ,, 1929	895	925	897	938	928	939	913
,, ,, 1931	895	926	908	938	928	939	914
,, ,, 1939	894	905	897	936	925	919	904
,, ,, 1941	894	900	896	896	896	896	897
,, ,, 1946	894	900	896	896	896	896	897
,, ,, 1947	851	896	896	860	896	896	878
,, ,, 1948	814	814	814	814	814	814	814
,, ,, 1949	814	814	814	814	814	814	814
,, ,, 1950	814	814	814	814	814	814	814
,, ,, 1951	814	814	814	814	814	814	814

(a) *See* note (a) to table on page 59.

11. **Nominal and Effective Wages.**—(i) *General.* Index-numbers of wage rates are said to be *nominal* when they represent changes in the wage rates themselves but are described as *effective* or *real* when they represent changes in equivalent purchasing power, that is, the purchasing power of the corresponding wages in terms of some definite composite unit or regimen the cost of which can be ascertained at different times. The relation between *nominal* and *effective* or *real* wages was discussed at some length in Labour Report No. 6, and was also referred to in Labour Report No. 11.

Since it is possible to measure purchasing power over more than one composite unit or regimen it is equally possible to convert any given nominal wage series into more than one series of effective or real wages. Prior to 1936 it was the practice of the Bureau to compute effective wage index-numbers by dividing the nominal wage index-numbers by the corresponding retail price index-numbers for food, groceries and rent of all houses ("A" series). While wage-rates were generally varied on the basis of the "A"* series index-numbers there was a good deal to be said for this procedure. When the Commonwealth Court abandoned the "A" series, the merits of

* For explanation of "A" series, *see* page 38.

the "C"* series of retail price index-numbers for "deflating" nominal wage rates were strengthened. The "C" series covers food, groceries, rent of four and five-roomed houses, clothing and miscellaneous household requirements. As the computation of the "A" series index by this Bureau was discontinued after the June quarter, 1938, real wages are measured in terms of their purchasing power over the "C" series only. A table showing for each State and for Australia real wages to the end of 1937 measured in terms of their purchasing power over the "A" series appeared in previous issues of the Labour Report (*see* No. 38, page 70). Real wages for Australia on this basis appear on page 70 hereof.

(ii) *Nominal Weekly Wage Index-numbers—Adult Males, States, 1911 to 1951.*—The following table shows for the period 1911 to 1951 the weighted average nominal weekly rates of wage in each State, the weighted average rate for Australia in 1911 being taken as the base (= 1,000). The index-numbers for 1911 are based on rates current at the end of December, annual averages not being available. For 1914 and subsequent years, however, the index-numbers have been computed from the average of the rates current at the end of each quarter.

Nominal Wage(a) Index-Numbers : Adult Males, States.

(*Base : Weighted Average Weekly Wage(a) for Australia, 1911 = 1,000.*)

State.	1911.	1914.	1921.	1929.	1931.	1939.	1941.	1945.	1946.	1947.	1948.	1949.	1950.	1951.
N.S.Wales ..	1,003	1,093	1,862	2,012	1,851	1,874	2,024	2,367	2,431	2,647	2,973	3,259	3,649	4,588
Victoria ..	985	1,062	1,803	1,964	1,683	1,808	1,984	2,340	2,403	2,585	2,909	3,200	3,584	4,458
Queensland ..	997	1,035	1,879	1,976	1,769	1,885	1,981	2,326	2,384	2,580	2,840	3,146	3,548	4,377
S. Australia ..	1,013	1,061	1,697	1,891	1,580	1,725	1,897	2,228	2,285	2,496	2,841	3,150	3,503	4,376
W. Australia	1,152	1,223	1,832	1,960	1,745	1,956	2,106	2,389	2,424	2,597	2,888	3,226	3,638	4,557
Tasmania ..	799	1,027	1,745	1,840	1,625	1,738	1,895	2,273	2,336	2,512	2,861	3,149	3,472	4,441
Australia ..	1,000	1,081	1,826	1,972	1,752	1,816	1,997	2,339	2,400	2,598	2,914	3,210	3,596	4,495

(*a*) For a full week's work (excluding overtime).

(iii) *Effective or Real Wage Index-numbers—Adult Males, States*—1911 to 1951.—In obtaining the effective wage index-numbers in the following table the nominal wage index-numbers shown above have been divided by the corresponding retail price index-numbers for the capital city and multiplied by 1,000.

Since the "C" series index-numbers were not compiled for periods prior to November, 1914, it has been assumed for the purpose of the following table that fluctuations between 1911 (the base of the table) and 1914 in the "C" series would have been similar to the fluctuations observed in the "A" series.

Effective or Real Wage(a) Index-Numbers for Adult Males : Measured in terms of purchasing power over the "C" series regimen.

(*Base : Weighted Average Real Wage(a) for Australia in 1911 = 1,000.*)

State.	1911.	1914.	1921.	1929.	1931.	1939.	1941.	1945.	1946.	1947.	1948.	1949.	1950.	1951.
N.S.Wales ..	..	925	1,073	1,130	1,210	1,207	1,187	1,249	1,258	1,316	1,359	1,365	1,380	1,430
Victoria ..	..	954	1,084	1,164	1,200	1,180	1,187	1,243	1,260	1,312	1,355	1,363	1,381	1,429
Queensland ..	..	1,022	1,227	1,290	1,336	1,306	1,240	1,307	1,314	1,367	1,379	1,407	1,453	1,498
S. Australia ..	..	914	1,034	1,099	1,137	1,147	1,158	1,218	1,229	1,291	1,341	1,362	1,388	1,439
W. Australia ..	..	1,043	1,096	1,152	1,189	1,308	1,279	1,300	1,296	1,348	1,377	1,379	1,426	1,477
Tasmania ..	..	902	984	1,108	1,120	1,153	1,142	1,237	1,237	1,285	1,334	1,338	1,371	1,438
Australia ..	1,000	948	1,087	1,151	1,210	1,211	1,194	1,252	1,263	1,318	1,357	1,367	1,389	1,439

(*a*) For a full week's work (excluding overtime).

In the above table the *effective* wage index-numbers are computed to the one base, that of Australia for 1911. As the index-numbers are

* For explanation of "C" series, *see* page 38.

comparable in all respects, comparisons may be made as to the increase or decrease in the *effective* wage index-number for any State over any period of years.

(iv) *Effective or Real Wage Index-numbers—Adult Males, Australia*—1901–1951. In the following table similar index-numbers are given for Australia as a whole under both the "A" and "C" series. These are obtained by dividing the nominal wage index-numbers for Australia for the year concerned by the corresponding retail price index-numbers for the six capital cities and multiplying by 1,000.

A similar table showing figures for each year from 1910 to 1949 may be found on page 71 of Labour Report, No. 38.

Nominal and Effective or Real Wage(*a*) Index-Numbers for Adult Males.

(*Base : Weighted Average Real Wage(a) in Australia in* 1911 = 1,000.)

Year.	Nominal Weekly Wage Index-numbers.	Retail Price Index-numbers.		Effective or Real Wage Index-numbers, i.e., relative purchasing power over regimen of—	
		"A" Series (Food, Groceries and Rent of All Houses).	"C" Series (All Items).	"A" Series.	"C" Series.
1901.. ..	848	880	..	964	.
1911.. ..	1,000	1,000	(1,000)	1,000	(1,000)
1914.. ..	1,081	1,140	1,140	948	948
1921.. ..	1,826	1,697	1,680	1,076	1,087
1929.. ..	1,972	1,822	1,713	1,082	1,151
1931.. ..	1,752	1,479	1,448	1,185	1,210
1932.. ..	1,639	1,403	1,377	1,168	1,190
1933.. ..	1,584	1,345	1,335	1,178	1,187
1934.. ..	1,590	1,385	1,355	1,148	1,173
1935.. ..	1,612	1,420	1,380	1,135	1,169
1936.. ..	1,638	1,461	1,409	1,121	1,162
1937.. ..	1,707	1,507	1,448	1,133	1,178
1938.. ..	1,799	(*b*)	1,488	(*b*)	1,209
1939.. ..	1,846	(*b*)	1,526	(*b*)	1,211
1940.. ..	1,889	(*b*)	1,588	(*b*)	1,190
1941.. ..	1,997	(*b*)	1,673	(*b*)	1,194
1942.. ..	2,164	(*b*)	1,809	(*b*)	1,196
1943.. ..	2,300	(*b*)	1,876	(*b*)	1,231
1944.. ..	2,326	(*b*)	1,867	(*b*)	1,246
1945.. .	2,339	(*b*)	1,868	(*b*)	1.252
1946.. ..	2,400	(*b*)	1,900	(*b*)	1,263
1947.. ..	2,598	(*b*)	1,971	(*b*)	1,318
1948.. ..	2,914	(*b*)	2,148	(*b*)	1,357
1949.. ..	3,210	(*b*)	2,349	(*b*)	1,367
1950.. ..	3,596	(*b*)	2,589	(*b*)	1,389
1951.. ..	4,495	(*b*)	3,124	(*b*)	1,439

(*a*) For a full week's work (excluding overtime). As to the effect in abnormal periods, *see* page 20 of Labour Report No. 6. (*b*) Not available.

NOTE.—For years prior to 1914 the nominal wage index-numbers relate to the end of the year only but from 1914 onward these figures, in addition to those for retail prices, are averages for the whole year.

The *effective* or *real* wage in 1901 under the "A" series was 3.6 per cent. less than in 1911. During the period 1912 to 1920, while wages increased steadily, prices increased at a greater rate, with the result that the

purchasing power of wages under both the "A" and the "C" series was less in each of these years than in 1911. The first occasion on which the *effective* wage was higher than in 1911 was in the year 1921.

In 1937, the last complete year for which both "A" and "C" series of retail price index-numbers are available, the *effective* wage was 13.1 per cent. higher than in 1911 under the "A" series and 17.7 per cent. higher under the "C" series.

As retail prices (as shown by the "C" series index), rose by 20.7 per cent. in 1951, while nominal wages rose by 25.0 per cent., the *effective* wage index-number rose from 1,389 to 1,439. Index-numbers of nominal and effective wages as well as total and average weekly earnings for periods subsequent to 1951 appear in the *Monthly Review of Business Statistics*.

12. **Productive Activity.**—The preceding tables show the movement in *real* (or *effective*) wages, i.e., wages measured in terms of retail purchasing power. A parallel problem is the measure of productivity, i.e., the quantity of production (irrespective of prices) in relation to population or persons engaged in production. The tables formerly published in this Section relating to gross value of Australian production, material production per head of population and per person engaged in material production (*see* Labour Report No. 35) have been discontinued, as it has been found that the methods previously used in constructing these indexes do not give reliable results under conditions experienced in recent years. At this stage, no alternative methods have been devised to measure satisfactorily the productivity of the working population.

§ 3. Standard Hours of Work.

1. **General.**—In the fixation of weekly wage rates most industrial tribunals prescribe the number of hours constituting a full week's work for the wage rates specified. The hours of work so prescribed form the basis of the compilation of the index numbers on pages 65–68 of this Labour Report. The first year shown is 1914 at which time the 48-hour week was recognized as a standard working week for most industries. The main features of the reduction of hours from 48 to 40 per week are summarized below. In considering such changes it must be remembered that even within individual States the authority to alter conditions of labour is divided between Commonwealth and State industrial tribunals and the various legislatures, and that the State legislation does not apply to employees covered by awards of the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration.

2. **The 44-hour Week.**—No permanent reduction to a 44-hour week was effected until 1925 although temporary reductions had been achieved earlier. In 1920 the New South Wales legislature granted a 44-hour week to most industries, but in the following year this provision was withdrawn. Also in 1920 the President of the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration (Higgins *J.*), after inquiry, granted a 44-hour week to Timber Workers, and, in the following year extended the same privilege to the Amalgamated Society of Engineers. In 1921, however, a reconstituted Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration unanimously rejected applications by five trade unions for the lower standard week and reintroduced the 48-hour week in the case of the two above-mentioned unions then

working 44 hours. During 1924 the Queensland Parliament passed legislation to operate from 1st July, 1925, granting the 44-hour standard week to employees whose conditions of work were regulated by awards and agreements in that State. Similar legislative action in New South Wales led to the re-introduction of the 44-hour week in that State as from 4th January, 1926.

In 1927 after an exhaustive inquiry the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration granted a 44-hour week to the Amalgamated Engineering Union and intimated that this reduction in standard hours of work would be extended to industries operating under conditions similar to those in the engineering industry. Applications for the shorter hours by other unions were, however, treated individually, the nature of the industry, the problem of production, the financial status and the amount of foreign competition being fully investigated. The economic depression delayed the extension of the standard 44-hour week until the subsequent improvement in economic conditions made possible its general extension to employees under Commonwealth awards.

In States other than New South Wales and Queensland no legislation was passed to reduce the standard hours of work so that, for employees not covered by Commonwealth awards, the change had to be effected by decisions of the appropriate industrial tribunals. In these cases the date on which the reduction to 44 hours was implemented depended on the decision of the tribunals in particular industries, employees in some industries receiving the benefit of the reduced hours years ahead of those in others. In these States the change to the shorter week extended over the years from 1926 to 1941.

3. **The 40-hour Week.**—Soon after the cessation of hostilities in the 1939–45 War applications were made to the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration for the introduction of a 40-hour week, and the hearing by the Court commenced in October, 1945. Before the Court gave its decision the New South Wales Parliament passed legislation granting a 40-hour week, operative from 1st July, 1947, to industries and trades regulated by State awards and agreements and in Queensland similar legislation which provided for the 40-hour week in that State to become operative from 1st January, 1948, was introduced in Parliament.

The Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration in its judgment on 8th September, 1947, granted the reduction to the 40-hour week from the beginning of the first pay-period commencing in January, 1948. The Queensland Act was passed, and was proclaimed on 10th October, 1947. On 27th October, 1947, the South Australian Industrial Court after hearing applications by unions approved the incorporation of the 40-hour standard week in awards of that State. The Court of Arbitration of Western Australia on 6th November, 1947, granted the 40-hour week to employees under its jurisdiction from the beginning of the first pay-period to commence in January, 1948.

In Victoria and Tasmania the Wages Boards met and also incorporated the shorter working week in their determinations so that from the beginning of 1948 practically all employees in Australia whose conditions of labour were regulated by industrial authorities had the advantages of a standard working week of 40 hours or, in certain cases, less.

§ 4. The Basic Wage and Child Endowment in Australia.

1. **The Basic Wage.**—(i) *General.*—The " basic " wage is determined in Australia by industrial tribunals operating under Commonwealth and State Arbitration Acts. In the industrial legislation of Queensland and Western Australia, provision is made for the tribunals appointed under the Acts to determine the basic rates of wage to be paid to adult unskilled workers. In Tasmania provision for the declaration of a basic rate of wage is not included in the industrial Acts in force. The Wages Board system operates in this State, and each Wages Board determines the rate of wage to be paid to the unskilled worker when the determination for an industry or calling is under review. In Victoria, however, while the same Wages Board system exists, the Factories and Shops Acts oblige Wages Boards to adopt the same rates as those determined by the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration for similar industries. In New South Wales and South Australia in general, tribunals are required to adopt the prevailing Commonwealth basic wage.

As the power of the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration is limited by the Commonwealth Constitution to the settlement, by conciliation and arbitration, of industrial disputes extending beyond the limits of any one State, no similar provision is to be found in the Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act. In practice, the Court does declare a Commonwealth basic wage and uses the wage so declared as a basis for all awards made by it in the exercise of its jurisdiction, except in the case of awards made for Whyalla and Iron Knob, where the basis of awards has, since 1947, been the South Australian " living " wage plus 5s. That is, upon a new basic wage being declared, the awards made in the settlement of all interstate industrial disputes are re-opened and amended accordingly.

(ii) *Acts in Force.*—The acts in force at the end of 1951 providing for the determination or variation of a " basic " wage in industry generally are listed below :—

(*a*) Commonwealth—Conciliation and Arbitration Act 1904–1951*.

(*b*) New South Wales—Industrial Arbitration Act 1940–1951.

(*c*) Victoria—Factories and Shops Acts 1928–1951.

(*d*) Queensland—Industrial Conciliation and Arbitration Acts 1932–1948.

(*e*) South Australia—Industrial Code 1920–1951.

(*f*) Western Australia—Industrial Arbitration Act 1912–1950.

(*g*) Tasmania—Wages Board Act 1920–1951.

2. **The Commonwealth Basic Wage.**—(i) *General.*—The doctrine of a basic wage was propounded as far back as 1890 by Sir Samuel Griffith, Premier of Queensland, and the same principle was enunciated in the New South Wales Arbitration Court in somewhat similar terms by Mr. Justice Heydon in 1905. In spite of these pronouncements, however, and of the fact that wage-fixing tribunals had been in operation as early as 1896 (in the State of Victoria), it was not until the year 1907 that the first basic wage, as such, was declared by a Court in Australia. This declaration was

* *See* limitations mentioned in second paragraph of (i) above.

made by Mr. Justice Higgins, President of the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration, and is popularly known as the "Harvester Judgment" by reason of its having been determined in connexion with H. V. McKay's Sunshine Harvester Works.* The rate declared in this case was 7s. per day or £2 2s. per week for Melbourne, the amount considered reasonable for "a family of about five",† and was generally referred to as the "Harvester" wage. According to a rough allocation by the Judge, the constituent parts of this amount were £1 5s. 5d. for food, 7s. for rent, and 9s. 7d. for all other expenditure.

The judgment was delivered on 8th November, 1907, in the matter of the application of H. V. McKay for an Order in terms of Section 2 (*d*) of the Excise Tariff Act 1906. The Commonwealth Parliament had by this Act imposed certain excise duties on agricultural implements, but provided that the Act should not apply to goods manufactured in Australia "under conditions as to the remuneration of labour which are declared by the President of the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration to be fair and reasonable". The President discussed at length the meaning of "fair and reasonable", and stated: "These remarks would not be made if the Legislature had defined the general principles on which I am to determine whether wages are fair and reasonable or the reverse. . . . The provision for fair and reasonable remuneration is obviously designed for the benefit of the employees in the industry; and it must be meant to secure to them something which they cannot get by the ordinary system of individual bargaining with employers. . . . The standard must therefore be something else; and I cannot think of any other standard appropriate than 'the normal needs of the average employee regarded as a human being living in a civilized community'". This may therefore be taken as the original criterion adopted by the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration in the fixation of its "basic"‡ wage.

The President in his judgment stated: "My hesitation has been chiefly between 7s. and 7s. 6d.; but I put the minimum at 7s. as I do not think that I could refuse to declare an employer's remuneration to be fair and reasonable if I find him paying 7s. per day".

The "Harvester" basic rate was adopted by the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration for incorporation in its awards and practically the same rates continued until the year 1913, when the Court took cognizance of the retail price index-numbers, covering food and groceries and rent of all houses ("A" series) for the 30 more important towns of the Commonwealth, which had been published by the Commonwealth Statistician for the first time in the preceding year. These index-numbers had been taken back to 1901, with the year 1911 as base, and disclosed not only considerable

---

* 2 C.A.R., p. 1.

† The average number of dependent children per family was apparently regarded by the Court as about three, although statistical information available at the time did not permit of exact figures being ascertained. The 1911 Census disclosed, however, that the average issue of husbands aged 35–39 in the wage and salary earning group (excluding unemployed) was 3.00 children of all ages, and some such figure was probably in the mind of the Court. The only figures available from the 1921 Census for dependent children under 14 years for the wage and salary earning group (including unemployed) were—per male householder, 1.55, and an estimate per adult male of 1.0. The average numbers of dependent children under sixteen years for the wage and salary earning group (including unemployed) at the 1933 Census were as follows—per adult married male, 1.45, and per adult male, 0.91. The following are the estimated numbers of dependent children under fourteen years for the same group—per adult married male, 1.27, and per adult male, 0.80. *See* however, page 78 for the Court's interpretation in the 1940 Basic Wage Inquiry of the real basis of this wage.

‡ The term "minimum" wage, on the other hand, is used to express the lowest rate of wage payable in a particular industry or occupation, and is either equal to or greater than the "basic" wage.

percentage increases since 1907, but also large disparities in the relative purchasing power of money in the various towns. The basic rates for towns were thereafter fixed on their respective index-numbers, taking the index-number 875 for Melbourne for the year 1907 as being equivalent to 42s. per week, or the base of the index (1,000) as being equivalent to 48s. per week. Exceptions were made in the case of many country towns, where certain "loadings" were applied to counterbalance the lower index-numbers due to cheaper rentals.*

In 1922 an amount known as the "Powers' 3s."† was added as a general "loading" to the weekly wage for the purpose of securing to the worker during a period of rising prices the full equivalent of the "Harvester" standard. In the same year the system was instituted of making regular quarterly adjustments of the basic wage to accord with variations in purchasing power as disclosed by the "A" series retail price index-numbers, and of basing the adjustments on the index-number for the quarter in place of that for the previous calendar year or the year ended the preceding quarter.

The Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act provides that any alteration of the "basic" wage or the principles on which it is computed, or any variation or interpretation of any award where the variation or interpretation would result in any such alteration, shall have no force or effect unless it is considered by a Court constituted by the Chief Judge and not less than two other Judges, and must be approved by a majority of the members of the Court. By a judgment of the High Court on 21st April, 1933, the "basic" wage is taken to mean for the foregoing purpose, not only the "Harvester" wage, but any "loadings" forming part of the primary wage of an unskilled labourer (the wage payable for skilled labour being assessed on the basis of that primary wage). A "loading" is defined as an addition to the "basic" wage as compensation for some peculiar condition of labour or environment, and not by way of "margin for skill."

The adequacy or otherwise of the "Harvester" standard was the subject of much discussion during the period of its operation, the author of the judgment himself urging on several occasions the need for its review. The abnormal conditions during and for some time after the 1914–18 War hindered such a review, which was regarded as less urgent by reason of the fact that wages throughout Australia were being automatically adjusted to changes in retail prices. A Royal Commission, however, was appointed in 1919 to assess a basic wage, but although its recommendations were not carried out (owing mainly to the considerable advance the amounts recommended represented over current rates and the grave doubts expressed as to the ability of industry to pay such rates), the two Reports of the Commission of 1920 and 1921 comprise a most valuable contribution on the subject of the basic wage in Australia, and a *résumé* of its findings is given on page 106.

No change was made in the method of fixation and adjustment of the basic wage until the onset of the depression, which began to be felt severely during 1930. Applications were then made to the Court by employers for

* As these indexes covered only about 60 per cent. of household expenditure, a low index due to low rentals would wrongly presume low costs in the remaining uninvestigated 40 per cent. of household expenditure and *vice versa*.

† Awarded by Mr. Justice Powers in the Gas Workers' Case (16 C.A.R., p. 32).

some greater measure of reduction of wages than that afforded by the automatic adjustments to falling retail prices. An account of the proceedings which resulted in the Court reducing all wages under its jurisdiction by 10 per cent. from 1st February, 1931, is given in Labour Report No. 23, page 74. Reference is also made to the Court's refusal in June, 1932, and May, 1933, to remove this special reduction.*

(ii) *Basic Wage Inquiry*, 1934.—The "Harvester" standard, adjusted to retail price variations, continued as the theoretical basis of the wage of the Commonwealth Court until 30th April, 1934, when it was superseded by a judgment delivered on 17th April, 1934, operative from 1st May, 1934,† full particulars of which appear in earlier issues of this Report (*see* No. 26, page 76). The basic wage declared on this occasion (subsequently referred to as the "Needs Basic Wage, 1934") was declared on the basis of the relative "C" Series retail price indexes of the various cities for the December quarter 1933, and the equation to the base of those indexes (Weighted average of Six Capital Cities, 1923–27 = 1,000) of a wage of 81s. per week.

The following is a comparison for the capital cities of the basic rates granted by the judgment and those ruling under previous practices of the Court:—

Comparison of Basic Rates awarded for Capital Cities.

City.	Rates being paid prior to 1st May, 1934.(a)		"Needs" Rates Awarded 1st May, 1934; "C" Series.	Increase or Decrease. "Needs" Rates.			
				Over "D" Series.		Over "A" Series.	
	Under "D" Series less 10 per cent. "cut".	Under "A" Series (Full).		Full.	Less 10 per cent. "cut".	Full.	Less 10 per cent. "cut".
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Sydney	66 11	72 0	67 0	−7 4	+0 1	−5 0	+2 2
Melbourne ..	63 4	67 6	64 0	−6 4	+0 8	−3 6	+3 3
Brisbane ..	59 4	62 0	61 0	−4 11	+1 8	−1 0	+5 2
Adelaide ..	60 2	63 0	64 0	−2 10	+3 10	+1 0	+7 4
Perth	59 3	64 0	66 0	+0 2	+6 9	+2 0	+8 5
Hobart	64 10	70 0	67 0	−5 0	+2 2	−3 0	+4 0
Six Capitals ..	63 9	68 0	65 0	−5 10	+1 3	−3 0	+3 10

(a) Calculated to nearest 6d., and including "Powers' 3s." or its equivalent.

NOTE.—For explanation of the "A", "C" and "D" series *see* pp. 38 and 39 of this Report.

The 10 per cent. special reduction in wages referred to above ceased to operate upon the introduction of the new rates, and the basis of the periodical adjustments to retail price variations was transferred from the "A" and the "D" series to the "C" series of index-numbers. The latter series covers Food and Groceries; Rent of 4 and 5-roomed Houses; Clothing; Fuel; Light; Household Utensils; Household Drapery; Fares; and other Miscellaneous household requirements. The base of the table (1,000) was taken by the Court as equal to 81s. per week. This gave the above rates in Column 4 for the capital cities, on the basis of their respective index-numbers. In effect the new rate for the six capital cities was the same as that previously

* 30 C.A.R., p. 1; 31 C.A.R., p. 305. † 33 C.A.R. p. 144.

paid under the "A" series, without the "Powers' 3s.", and without the 10 per cent. reduction. Certain towns gained and others lost in comparison with rates under the "A" series, owing to the different relationship of towns under the "A" and the "C" series.

In view, however, of the fact that the vast majority of workers affected were being paid the rates shown in Column 2 under the "D" Series Retail Price Index (which rates allowed for the 10 per cent. "cut" in wages), the differences compared with the *full* basic wages standard established by the Court from 1st May, 1934, by means of this series were as shown in Column 5. The *full* rates under this series may be obtained by adding one-ninth to the rates in Column 2.

(iii) *Basic Wage Inquiry*, 1937.—In May, 1937, the Commonwealth Court heard an application by the combined unions for an increase in the basic wage. The unions asked that the equivalent of the base (1,000) of the "C" series index be increased from 81s. to 93s., which on current index-numbers would have represented an average increase of about 10s. per week. The hearing extended from 10th May to 4th June, 1937, and the Court delivered judgment on 23rd June.* The chief features of the judgment were :

(*a*) Various amounts were added to the basic wage not as an integral, and therefore adjustable, part of that wage, but as "loadings" on the rates that would have been payable under the "shilling table" as determined by the 1934 judgment. It was in this judgment that the Court designated its basic wage of 1934 as the "needs" portion of the total resultant basic wage, by which name it has since been generally known. The "loadings" and resultant "total basic wages" for the six capital cities were as follows :—

City.	"Needs" Basic Wage.	"Loading."	Total Basic Wage
	s. d.	*s. d.*	*s. d.*
Sydney	72 0	6 0	78 0
Melbourne	69 0	6 0	75 0
Brisbane	68 0	6 0	74 0
Adelaide	68 0 (*a*)	4 0	72 0
Perth	70 0 (*a*)	4 0	74 0
Hobart	70 0 (*b*)	4 0	74 0
Six Capitals	70 0	5 0	75 0

(*a*) An additional 1s. was actually being paid under the "2s. minimum adjustment" provision.
(*b*) 1s. less was being paid under the "2s. minimum adjustment" provision.

The above were not to apply to railway employees, to whom the Court granted "loadings" of 5s. in New South Wales and Victoria, and 3s. in South Australia and Tasmania. Workers in the provincial towns were to receive "loadings"—6s. in New South Wales, Victoria and Queensland ; and 4s. in South Australia, Western Australia and Tasmania. Wages based on "combination" index-numbers covering four, five or six capital cities, or the 30 towns, would receive a "loading" of 5s. per week. The maritime workers were granted a "loading" of 21s. 6d. per month, and the pastoral workers received increases proportionate to the increase of the flat basic rate, from 68s. to 77s. in respect of the basis of piece-work rates, and of 3s. per week for station hands.

* 37 C.A.R., p. 583.

The "loadings" came into operation in two instalments, namely, from the beginning of the first pay-periods commencing in July and October, 1937.

The maritime, pastoral and gas workers' increases were to become fully operative in the first pay period commencing in July.

(*b*) The former proviso that no adjustment of wages should take place unless the amount of variation reached at least 2s. was rescinded in favour of minimum variations of 1s. per week.

(*c*) The general policy laid down in the previous judgment in regard to rates for country towns was retained, with the exception that the rates for Geelong and Warrnambool were made the same as those for Melbourne.

(*d*) The basis of the adjustment of wages in accordance with the variations shown by retail price index-numbers was transferred from the "C" series to a special "Court" series based upon the "C" series, for an explanation of which see page 38.

(*e*) Female and junior rates were left for adjustment by individual judges when dealing with specific awards.

The main parts of the judgment were reprinted in earlier issues of the Labour Report (*see* No. 28, page 77).

(iv) "*Lag*" *in Adjustments.*—The Commonwealth Court on 19th December, 1939, heard an application by the unions that the date of adjustment of the basic wage in accordance with the variations in the "Court" Series of index-numbers be brought nearer to the period upon which the variation was based. In a judgment delivered on the same day, the Court directed that such adjustments be made one month earlier. The effect, therefore, was to make future adjustments operative from the beginning of the first pay-period to commence in a February, a May, an August or a November.

(v) *Basic Wage Inquiry*, 1940.—On 5th August, 1940, the Full Court commenced the hearing of an application by the combined unions for an increase in the existing basic wage by raising the value of 1,000 (the base of the "C" series index upon which the "Court" series are based) from 81s. to 100s. per week, and the abolition of the existing "Prosperity" loadings, which would be regarded as incorporated in the new rate mentioned. The hearing was interrupted for a period of ten weeks owing to the serious illness of the Chief Judge (The Hon. Sir George S. Beeby) but was completed on 28th November, 1940. Judgment was delivered on 7th February, 1941, wherein the Court unanimously refused to grant any increase, and decided that the application should not be dismissed but stood over for further consideration after 30th June, 1941. The application was refused mainly owing to the uncertainty of the economic outlook under existing war conditions.*

In regard to the popular idea that the basic wage of the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration was identified with a specific family unit, the Chief Judge made the following statements to clarify the position: "The Court has always conceded that the 'needs' of an average family

* 44 C.A.R., p. 41.

should be kept in mind in fixing a basic wage. But it has never as the result of its own inquiry specifically declared what is an average family or what is the cost of a regimen of food, clothing, shelter and miscellaneous items necessary to maintain it in frugal comfort, or that a basic wage should give effect to any such finding. In the end economic possibilities have always been the determining factor . . . . What should be sought is the independent ascertainment and prescription of the highest basic wage that can be sustained by the total of industry in all its primary, secondary and ancillary forms. That, no doubt, is the object, but the adoption of something like the real average family as the unit to be provided for is not without its use in the attainment of that object. There is no clear means of measuring the general wage-paying capacity of the total industry of a country. All that can be done is to approximate, and one of the methods of approximation is to find out the actual wage upon which well-situated labourers are at the time maintaining the average family unit. We may be pardoned for saying that Mr. Justice Higgins very wisely used this criterion in the Harvester case.* Moreover if the average-sized families of such well-situated labourers have become accustomed to enjoy, and do actually enjoy, a certain standard of living in our community, it may reasonably be assumed that such a standard for all labourers is probably not beyond the capacity of industry in general to provide. Therefore, in determining the amount of a living or basic wage there is sound economic warranty for the ascertainment of the real average family unit and of the cost of providing something like the standard which such families of well-employed labourers have already reached. But obviously, if the real average family unit is departed from, or a standard is sought for the likely maintenance of which experience gives no reason to hope, then an unrealizable wage-level may be ordained. . . . It may be that in the light of past experience the Court should conduct a specific inquiry as to the cost of living of an average family, but under war conditions, such an inquiry would be futile. More than ever before wage fixation is controlled by the economic outlook."

The Chief Judge further stated, "I was impressed by the new evidence and argument as to the inadequacy of the earnings of the lower paid wage-earners with families. On our accepted standards of living, looking at it from the needs point of view only, I regard the present basic wage as adequate for a family unit of three persons, but think it offers only a meagre existence for a family unit of four. When the unit gets beyond four hardship is often experienced." He suggested that the more logical system would be to grade the basic wage according to family responsibilities and that, notwithstanding the increase in aggregate wages, the benefits resulting from a reapportionment of national income to increase the wages of those with more than one dependent child would more than offset the inflationary tendency of provision for a comprehensive scheme of child endowment, and that if a scheme of this nature were established, as recently announced by the Commonwealth Government†, future fixations of the basic wage would be greatly simplified. The other two Judges (O'Mara *J.* and Piper *J.*) in separate judgments agreed with that of the Chief Judge, particularly in regard to the need for a child endowment scheme as a solution of the main problem.

(vi) "*Interim*" *Basic Wage Inquiry*, 1946.—The Court, on 25th November, 1946, commenced the hearing of this case as the result of (*a*) an

* *See* page 74 for details.

† Legislation covering a scheme which became operative on 1st July, 1941, was passed by the Commonwealth Parliament on 3rd April, 1941—*see* page 108 for details.

application made on 30th October, 1946 (during the course of the Standard Hours Case) by the Attorney-General for the Commonwealth for the restoration to the Full Court List of certain adjourned 1940 basic wage applications (*see* (v) above); (*b*) a number of fresh cases which had come to the Court since 1941 and (*c*) an application by the Australasian Council of Trade Unions on behalf of the unions for an "interim" basic wage declaration.

The Court had the advantage of considering not only the evidence tendered and submissions made during the time allotted for that purpose, but also a considerable body of evidence relevant to the basic wage question tendered as part of the Standard Hours Case, and the cross-examination and submissions thereon forming part of that case. The case was in fact interposed during the hearing of the Standard Hours Case on the assurance of the Court that it would be dealt with immediately and taken through to finality in the shortest possible time, to which end procedure was laid down designed to cope with the urgency of the situation while at the same time allowing parties ample time to present their cases.

The case ended on 10th December, 1946 and judgment was delivered on 13th December, 1946 whereby an increase of 7s. per week was granted in the "needs" portion of the basic wage then current and based on the weighted average "Court" index-number for the Six Capital Cities (as a whole) for the September quarter, 1946. This had the effect of raising the base (1923–27) index-number of the "Court" Series Index from 81.0 to 87.0, the corresponding "needs" basic wage from 81s. to 87s. per week, and the current rate for the Six Capital Cities from 93s. to 100s. per week. All "loadings" on the basic wage were retained at their existing amounts until otherwise ordered by the Court.

The immediate monetary effect was to increase by 7s. per week the basic wage in each of the capital cities (with the exception of Hobart, where the increase was 6s.), and in most of the other towns or combinations of towns—the position of the index-number for a town in the new Automatic Adjustment Scale (on the new base rate of 87s.) determining whether the increase was 7s. or 6s.

The new "Court" index-numbers were obtained by multiplying the "C" Series retail price index-numbers (1923–27 Base = 1,000) by the factor 0.087, and taking the result to the first decimal place. They were designated "Court Index (Second Series)", to distinguish them from the "Court Index (First Series)", similarly derived by using the factor 0.081 (*see* page 39, vii.). For the purpose of obtaining a continuous "price-index", however, the "First Series" may be converted to the "Second Series" by multiplying the indexes of the former by 1.0741, and the "Second Series" to the "First Series" by multiplying the latter indexes by 0.931.

The incorporation of this increase in the "Court" Series had the advantage of not vitiating in any way the existing adjustment scales in awards, etc., since the higher value allotted by the Court to the "C" Series indexes automatically carried the "Court" index-numbers for all towns, etc., into the appropriate higher-value index-number divisions of the scales, whether the rates were prescribed on a yearly, half-yearly, monthly, weekly, hourly or other basis.

The foregoing increases were in respect of adult males, but as regards females and juveniles, it was provided that the relative rates for males and females as provided in existing awards, etc., of the Court should continue to apply. It was also provided that in the case of females, whose remuneration was governed by any decision of the Women's Employment Board (*see* page 85 *et seq.*) or by the National Security (Female Minimum Rates) Regulations no alteration of stated rates would ensue by any order pursuant to this judgment. However, those rates expressed as a stipulated percentage of the adult male rate were affected.

The new rates were expressed to become operative for the bulk of those affected as from the beginning of the first pay-period commencing in the month of December, 1946, but as to certain employees, for instance, casual workers such as waterside workers and maritime employees, the order was to operate from the 1st day of December, 1946. It was also stated in the judgment that any party to an award not then before the Court was at liberty to file an application for variation of that award and such application would be immediately placed before the Court for determination.

(vii) *Basic Wage Inquiry*, 1949–50.—This case really finalized the case begun in 1940 and continued in 1946 (*see* above). After certain procedural matters had been disposed of in February, 1949, and later dates, the general hearing of the unions' claims was commenced on 17th May, 1949. Evidence was completed on 22nd August, 1950, and the three judges (Kelly *C.J.*, Foster and Dunphy *JJ.*) delivered separate judgments on 12th October, 1950.

In 1946 the Chief Judge ruled that the claim for an increase in the basic wage should be heard concurrently with the "40 Hour Week" claims then before the Court. The unions, however, objected to this course being followed, and, on appeal to the High Court, that Court in March, 1947, gave a decision which obliged the Arbitration Court to proceed with the "Hours" case to its conclusion without the interpolation of the contemporaneous hearing of the Basic Wage case.*

In the judgments of 12th October, 1950, which were in the nature of general declarations, a majority of the Court (Foster and Dunphy *JJ.*) was of the opinion that the basic wage for adult males should be increased by £1 per week, and that for adult females should be 75 per cent. of the adult male rate. Kelly *C.J.* dissenting, considered that no increase either in the male or female wage was justified.

On 24th October, 1950, and 23rd November, 1950, the Court made further declarations regarding the "Prosperity" loading of 1937 (*see* page 77) which was being paid at rates between 3s. and 6s. per week according to localities, etc., and the future basis of quarterly adjustments. The "Prosperity" loading was standardized at a uniform rate of 5s. per week for all towns and was declared to be an adjustable part of the basic wage. The Court also declared that the "War" loading was not part of the basic wage.

With regard to other loadings the Court on 17th November, 1950, proceeded to examine the individual awards in the claims before it, for the purpose of determining to what extent such loadings formed part of the basic wage. The members of the Court, earlier in the hearing, had given interim

* Printing Industry Employees Union of Australia *v.* Victorian Chamber of Manufactures, 73 C.L.R., p. 259.

opinions for the guidance of the parties as to the meaning of the definition of "basic wage" in section 25 of the Conciliation and Arbitration Act, the majority view being that it would be necessary to examine each award and to ascertain from either the award itself or other sources whether loading additions were part of the basic wage or not. It should be noted that any "loading" declared to be part of the basic wage ceased to be paid as a separate entity, but apart from the special case of the Australian Capital Territory (*see* page 90) there were very few loadings which fell within this category.

The first payment of the new rates was expressed to operate from the beginning of the first pay-period in December, 1950, by way of a flat-rate addition of £1 5s. in all cases to the "needs" rate (2nd Series) on the indexes of the September quarter, 1950. This £1 5s. comprised the £1 addition announced on 12th October, 1950, and the "Prosperity" loading (first instituted in 1937) now standardized at 5s. in all relevant cases.

The Court decided to create a new "Court" Series Index for automatic variation of the new basic wage in accordance with future variations in retail prices. The first automatic quarterly adjustment of the new basic wage on this basis became operative from the beginning of the first pay-period commencing in February, 1951, on the basis of the index-numbers for the December quarter, 1950.

The basic wage rate for the Six Capital Cities (Weighted Average) arrived at by the Court after applying the foregoing declarations was £8 2s., comprising £6 17s. "needs" (2nd Series) plus 5s. uniform "Prosperity" loading plus the £1 addition. For the purpose of determining the corresponding rates to be paid in respect of individual cities and towns, and combinations thereof, and their future automatic adjustment, this new rate of £8 2s. was equated to the "C" Series retail price index-number 1572 for the Six Capital Cities (Weighted Average) for September quarter, 1950. From this was derived the new "Court" Index—in future to be known as the "Court" Index (Third Series)—with 103.0 equated to 1000 in the "C" Series Index. The new adjustment scale appears on page 41 of this report.

The basic wage rates operative in November, 1950, are shown below in comparison with those operative from the beginning of the first pay-period commencing in December, 1950 :—

Capital City.	Rates Operative in November, 1950.			Total Rate Operative in December, 1950.(a)	Increase (Col. 5 less Col. 4).
	"Needs" Rate.	"Prosperity" Loading.	Total.		
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Sydney	140 0	6 0	146 0	165 0	19 0
Melbourne ..	137 0	6 0	143 0	162 0	19 0
Brisbane	129 0	6 0	135 0	154 0	19 0
Adelaide	133 0	4 0	137 0	158 0	21 0
Perth	135 0	4 0	139 0	160 0	21 0
Hobart	135 0	4 0	139 0	160 0	21 0
Six Capitals ..	137 0	5 0	142 0	162 0	20 0

(a) Comprising "Needs" Rate shown in column (2) plus 20s. addition of 12th October, 1950, and uniform "Prosperity" loading of 5s.

(viii) *Rates Operative, Principal Towns.*—The " basic " wage rates of the Commonwealth Court for adult males and females, operative in the principal towns of Australia as from the beginning of the first pay-period commencing in November, 1952, are shown in the following table :—

Commonwealth Basic Wage : Weekly Rates, November, 1952.(*a*)

City or Town.	Rate of Wage.		City or Town.	Rate of Wage.	
	Males.	Females.		Males.	Females.
	s. d.	*s. d.*		*s. d.*	*s. d.*
New South Wales—			South Australia—		
Sydney	237 0	177 6	Adelaide	229 0	171 6
Newcastle (*b*) ..	237 0	177 6	Whyalla and Iron Knob	234 0	175 6
Port Kembla-Wollongong (*b*) ..	237 0	177 6	Five Towns (*c*) ..	229 0	171 6
Broken Hill ..	246 0	184 6			
Five Towns (*c*) ..	236 0	177 6	Western Australia—		
			Perth	228 0	171 0
			Kalgoorlie ..	238 0	178 6
Victoria—			Geraldton ..	243 0	182 0
Melbourne ..	228 0	171 0	Five Towns (*c*) ..	229 0	171 6
Geelong (*d*) ..	228 0	171 0			
Warrnambool (*d*) ..	228 0	171 0	Tasmania—		
Mildura (*d*) ..	228 0	171 0	Hobart	230 0	172 6
Yallourn (*d*) ..	234 6	175 6	Launceston ..	227 0	170 0
Five Towns (*c*) ..	228 0	171 0	Queenstown ..	222 0	166 6
			Five Towns (*c*) ..	228 0	171 0
Queensland—			Thirty Towns (*c*) ..	230 0	172 6
Brisbane ..	216 0	162 0			
Five Towns (*c*) ..	216 0	162 0	Six Capital Cities (*c*) ..	231 0	173 0

(*a*) Operative from the beginning of the first pay-period commencing in November, 1952. (*b*) Based on Sydney. (*c*) Weighted average. (*d*) Based on Melbourne.

With the exception of those mentioned above, the rate for provincial towns is 3s. less than that of their capital city.

The rate for adult females is 75 per cent. of the male rate.

A table of Basic Wage Rates from 1923 to 1952 will be found in Section IX. of the Appendix.

3. **Basic Wage Rates for Females.**—(i) *General.*—In its judgment of 17th April, 1934, wherein the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration laid down the basis of its " needs " basic wage for adult males, the Court made the following statement in regard to the female rate :—

> " The Court does not think it necessary or desirable, at any rate at the present time, to declare any wage as a basic wage for female employees. Generally speaking they carry no family responsibilities. The minimum wage should, of course, never be too low for the reasonable needs of the employee, but those needs may vary in different industries. In the variations now to be made the proportion in each award of the minimum wage for females to that of males will be preserved."

The previous practice of the Court was therefore continued whereby each Judge granted such proportion of the male rate as he deemed suited to the nature of the industry and the general circumstances of the case. Generally speaking, this proportion was in the vicinity of 54 per cent. of the male rate, although in some cases the proportion was about 56 per cent.

Until 1942 this continued to be substantially the practice of all Commonwealth and State industrial tribunals and in the main its continuance was then made mandatory by Part V. of the National Security (Economic Organization) Regulations which "pegged" as at 10th February, 1942, all rates of remuneration previously prevailing in any employment. The only exceptions allowed were variations to rectify anomalies, variations resultant from hearings pending prior to 10th February, 1942, and "cost of living" variations.

In March, 1942, however, special action was taken to constitute a Women's Employment Board in conjunction with measures to encourage women to undertake, in war-time, work which would normally have been performed by men. This Board was given special jurisdiction to determine terms and conditions of such employment.

The Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration and State Industrial Tribunals continued to determine rates of pay, etc., of women engaged in what may broadly be described as "women's work" in the pre-war sense, while the jurisdiction of the Women's Employment Board (first appointed in March, 1942) was made to cover women engaged during the war in work formerly performed by men or in new work which immediately prior to the outbreak of the present war was not performed in Australia by any person.

In July, 1944, National Security (Female Minimum Rates) Regulations authorized the Commonwealth Arbitration Court to make comprehensive investigations (*a*) as to whether minimum rates of wage payable to females in industries considered by the Government to be necessary for war purposes were unreasonably low in comparison with minimum rates payable to females in other essential industries, (*b*) if so, as to whether it was in the national interest, and fair and just, to increase such rates, and (*c*) as to the amount of such increases. Determinations could be made for any period specified by the Court but not extending beyond six months after the end of the war. In making such determinations the Court was not bound by Part V. of the National Security (Economic Organization) Regulations, although such regulations applied to the new rates after determination. The objective of the Female Minimum Rates Regulations was to remove unreasonable disparities which were creating justified discontent and impeding the man-power authority in redistributing female labour in vital industries. This review commenced in the Court on 23rd February, 1945, and ended on 23rd March, judgment being reserved.

Judgment was delivered by the Full Court on 4th May, 1945,* to the effect that, in regard to (*a*) above, the majority of the Full Court (Piper *C.J.*, O'Mara and Kelly *JJ.*) found itself unable to declare that the rates in the "referred"† industries were unreasonably low compared with those in the three industries submitted by the Crown and the Union representatives as the standard rates for comparison, namely, those of the Clothing, Rubber and Metal industries, and that there was consequently no necessity to answer question (*b*). Two Judges (O'Mara and Kelly *JJ.*) considered that there were no other industries with rates lower than those of the standard industries mentioned above, compared with which the rates in the "referred" industries were unreasonably low, but the Chief Judge refrained from giving any answer to this question as he was not satisfied that if this

* C.A.R. 54, p. 613. † Twelve vital industries were "referred" by the Government for consideration.

aspect had been fully investigated during the hearing on the material before the Court the answer would necessarily have been in the negative in the cases of all the "referred" industries. In a minority judgment, Drake-Brockman and Foster *JJ.*, answered (*a*) and (*b*) in the affirmative.

Following this negative result, the Government, by National Security (Female Minimum Rates) Regulations (S.R. 1945, No. 139) dated 13th August, 1945, provided in respect of "vital" industries specified by the Minister by notice published in the *Gazette* that the remuneration of females employed therein should not be less than 75 per cent. of the corresponding minimum male rate. The validity of this Regulation was challenged in the High Court by Australian Textiles Pty. Ltd., but in a judgment dated 3rd December, 1945, the Court (Starke *J.* dissenting) held that the Regulations were a valid exercise of the powers under the *National Security Act* 1939–1943. The rates under this Regulation commenced to operate from 31st August, 1945.

As from 12th October, 1944, the Women's Employment Board was abolished and the Chairman of the Board (A. W. Foster) was made a Judge of the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration. The function of the Board under the Women's Employment Act then devolved upon the Court as constituted by a Judge designated by the Chief Judge. (*See* S.R. 1944, No. 149.)

The following sub-sections give a brief account of the functions allotted to and of the principles followed by the Women's Employment Board, and a summary of an important judgment delivered by the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration in 1943 stating the principles followed by the Court in fixing the basic rates payable to female workers and the difference between the rates payable to the women engaged in "women's work" and those payable to the special group of women engaged in "men's work" in war-time under the jurisdiction of the Women's Employment Board. The judgment also dealt with the question of "anomalies" as between the rates payable to the two classes of women workers.

(ii) *Women's Employment Board.*—The functions of the Women's Employment Board were specified by the Women's Employment Act of 1942.* The purpose of the Act as expressed in the title was "to encourage and regulate the employment of women for the purpose of aiding the prosecution of the present war". The jurisdiction of the Board was limited to females employed (after 2nd March, 1942) on work usually performed by males or which, immediately prior to the outbreak of the war, was not performed in Australia by any person.

The functions of the Board briefly were to decide what work and what female workers came within its jurisdiction (as defined) and the terms and conditions upon which women might be so employed including hours and special conditions as to safety, welfare and health. The Board was required to fix rates of payment for such women with regard to their efficiency and productivity in relation to that of males engaged in such work and the Regulations provided that payment to females (engaged on "men's work") should be not less than 60 per cent. nor more than 100 per cent. of the male rate.

* The Board was originally created under regulations under the *National Security Act* 1939–1940, dated 25th March, 1942 (Statutory Rules 1942, No. 146), but owing to the disallowance of such regulations by the Senate on 23rd September, 1942, the Board operated under the Women's Employment Act, No. 55 of 1942, as from 6th October, 1942, which validated all previous decisions, etc., of the first Board (gazetted on 11th June, 1942). The second Board was created on 10th November, 1942.

The Board ceased to function in 1944 but the Women's Employment Regulations continued to operate until 1949, when, by a judgment of the High Court such continuation was declared invalid. A summary of the activities of the Board during its period of operation was given in previous issues of the Labour Report (*see* No. 36, page 84).

(iii) *Judgments by Commonwealth Arbitration Court*—On 24th March, 1943, a case involving determination of general principles as to rates of wage of female employees not within the jurisdiction of the Women's Employment Board was remitted to the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration by the Minister for Labour and National Service under Regulation 9 of the National Security (Industrial Peace) Regulations, particularly as affecting female workers at Government small arms ammunition factories. The rates in these cases were considered by their trade union to be anomalous compared with those awarded by the Women's Employment Board to certain other women employed in those factories. The Court in its judgment dated 17th June, 1943,* rejected the contentions of the union (Arms Explosives and Munition Workers Federation of Australia) and enunciated in full the principles followed by the Court in determining female rates of wage within its jurisdiction.

In order to place the matter in perspective in its relation to the basic wage for males, the Court traced the history of the principles on which the basic wage for males was determined from its original declaration by Mr. Justice Higgins in his " Harvester " judgment of 1907 (*see* pp. 73-76 of this Report) and continued—

> "Although since 1930, when the 'economic and productivity factor' emerged as the 'dominant factor' in the problem of assessment [of the basic wage of adult male employees], the adequacy of the wage to meet the requirements of any 'specified family unit' has been only a subsidiary consideration, subsidiary that is to say to the question of the capacity of the national production to sustain a particular wage level, it is plain that the Court has not held that its basic wage has been fixed at too low a figure to meet the normal and reasonable needs of a family of husband, wife and at least one child. Nor has its adequacy to that extent been questioned. In this sense it can still be regarded as a family wage, inasmuch as it has been accepted as sufficient at all events to provide 'frugal comfort' for a man, his wife and at least one dependent child. For present purposes it is enough to say that, until a proper investigation demonstrates the contrary to be the case, we cannot but hold that the amount provided is more than sufficient to meet the normal and reasonable requirements of an unmarried worker with no dependants to support out of his earnings. And the same may be said of the living or basic wages determined by authorities functioning under State legislation as appropriate for male employees within their jurisdiction. The method of assessment of wage rates for adult male workers adopted and followed by industrial authorities throughout Australia has been to fix a basic wage portion adequate for the estimated needs of some family group and to add to that some additional payment in recognition of the skill or experience possessed by the worker or the special conditions met with in his particular occupation. The basic wage portion has had no reference to work value; it has been assessed in accordance with needs and it

* 50 C.A.R., p. 191.

has never been either held or suggested to be inadequate to meet the normal and reasonable needs not only of the worker himself but also of his wife and at least one dependent child."

The Court in its judgment then set out decisions arrived at by various Commonwealth and State Courts since 1912 when the Commonwealth Court first dealt directly with the problem of women's wages. Mr. Justice Higgins dealt with the case, and stated " I fixed the minimum in 1907 of 7s. per day by finding the sum which would meet the normal needs of an average employee, one of his normal needs being the need for domestic life. If he has a wife and children, he is under an obligation—even a legal obligation—to maintain them. How is such a minimum applicable to the case of a woman . . . . ? She is not, unless perhaps in very exceptional circumstances, under any such obligation. The minimum cannot be based on exceptional cases."

In respect of the " minimum rate " enjoined by the Commonwealth Arbitration Act, he held that " Nothing is clearer than that the minimum rate referred to in Section 40 means the minimum rate for a class of workers, those who do work of a certain character. If blacksmiths are the class of workers, the minimum rate must be such as recognizes that blacksmiths are usually men. If fruit-pickers are the class of workers, the minimum rate must be such as recognizes that, up to the present at least, most of the pickers are men (although women have been usually paid less), and that men and women are fairly in competition as to that class of work. If milliners are the class of workers, the minimum rate must, I think, be such as recognizes that all or nearly all milliners are women, and that men are not usually in competition with them."*

In concluding its review the Court stated " the fixation of the basic wage for women at amounts below 60 per cent. of that fixed for men has been general in the awards and determinations of this Court and other industrial authorities of Australia."

The Court stated its conclusions and laid down general principles in the following words :—

" It is beyond question that the general rule adopted and followed by the Australian industrial authorities in the assessment of wages for adult women workers, engaged upon work suitable for women in which they cannot fairly be said to be in competition with men for employment, has been and still is to fix a foundational amount, calculated with reference to the needs of a single woman who has to pay for her board and lodging, has to maintain herself out of her earnings, but has no dependants to support ; and to add to this foundational or basic amount such marginal amounts as may be appropriate in recognition of the particular skill or experience of the particular workers in question or as compensation for the particular conditions which they encounter in their occupations . . . .

" Just as the wages for male workers are assessed by adopting first a foundational wage—the basic wage—and adding to it marginal amounts fixed according to the relative skill and experience of particular workers or groups of workers, or to the special conditions they encounter, so too are women's wages, for work suitable to them in which they will not be disadvantaged by male competition, fixed by adding to a

* 6 C.A.R., p. 72.

foundational or basic amount analogous margins. But in each case the foundational wage is in principle and justice different. The man's basic wage is more than sufficient for his personal needs; it purports to provide him with enough to support some family. The woman's, on the other hand, purports to be enough for her to maintain herself only. No allowance is made for the support of any dependants. The man's wage has been measured by this Court with reference to the dominating factor of the productive capacity of industry to sustain it and with due regard consequently to what its application in industry will mean, to the marginal structure which rises above it, and to the consequent wages which will in accordance with established rules and practice be paid to women and to minors.

"In the course of the hearing the Chief Judge drew attention to the necessity which would occur, if women's rates were to be assessed on the basis that relative efficiency and productivity (as between men and women) were to constitute the dominant factor, for a review of the principles in accordance with which the basic wage has been determined. That this necessity would arise must be apparent. For the basic wage for adult males has been fixed at as high an amount as the Court has thought practicable in all the circumstances of the case, including the circumstances of the existing proportionate levels of wages for women and minors. The share of men workers in the fruits of production will need to be reduced if women are to participate therein on an equal footing, or on a better footing generally than that to which they have hitherto been held to be entitled.

"It is desirable that we should indicate as clearly as possible the effect of the conclusions to which the review of the principles of wage assessment* we have made has led us. It is that, so long as the foundational or basic wage for women is assessed according to a standard different from that which is the basis of the foundational or basic wage—a family wage—for men, the Court will not, in the exercise of its function of adjudicating between opposing interests, raise the general level of women's minimum wages in occupations suitable for women, and in which they do not encounter considerable competition from men, according to a comparison of their efficiency and productivity with the efficiency and productivity of men doing substantially similar work. To do so would at once depress the relative standard of living of the family as a group, and of its individual members, as compared with that of the typical single woman wage-earner."*

In December, 1943,† Drake-Brockman *J.* of this Court, in dealing with women employees in the Clothing (Dressmaking and Tailoring Sections) and Rubber industries, awarded for the duration of the war and for six months thereafter as a "flat rate" for the industry 75 per cent. of the "needs" basic wage, plus the "prosperity" and "industry" loadings ordinarily applicable. The reason for this action was (in the words of the judgment) as follows: "it was also common ground (between all the parties) that wastage of the employees in the industry during the last three years had been exceptionally heavy and that it was essential that some means should be found to attract women to the industry and thereafter to retain them for some reasonable period of time after they had been trained."

* 50 C.A.R., p. 191. † 51 C.A.R., pp. 632 and 648.

In July, 1944, the National Security (Female Minimum Wage) Regulations extended the discretion of the Commonwealth Arbitration Court in fixing female minimum wage rates in "vital" industries in war-time as briefly described on page 84.

The Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act No. 10 of 1947 (*see* Labour Report No. 37, page 50) provided amongst other things that "a Conciliation Commissioner shall not be empowered to make an order or award altering . . . . . (*d*) the minimum rate of remuneration for adult females in an industry." As the result of doubts which arose as to the powers of the Commissioners to "fix" a basic wage, the matter came before the Full Court of the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration for clarification at the instance of several trade unions. Judgment was delivered on 27th July, 1948, and it was held that Conciliation Commissioners had jurisdiction to fix the female rates in question under the provisions of the Act, but it was also held that the provision referred only to the basic element in any prescribed female rates. Where, however, such a prescribed rate did not specifically fix or disclose the basic wage element, the appropriate Conciliation Commissioner had to fix the rate, and when such rate had been fixed its alteration became a matter for the Court. In view of the fact that there were fifteen Commissioners whose views might differ as to the element of the rates of pay of adult females which could be ascribed to an adult female basic wage analogous to the basic wage for adult males, the Government in December, 1948, passed an Act (No. 77 of 1948) further amending the above-mentioned Act to authorize the Court—and the Court alone—to fix the basic rate by providing that "a Conciliation Commissioner shall not be empowered to make an order or award . . . . (*d*) determining or altering the minimum rate of remuneration for adult females in an industry."

A further amending Act, No. 2 of 1949, empowered the Court to determine or alter a "basic wage for adult females" which was defined as "that wage, or that part of a wage, which is just and reasonable for an adult female, without regard to any circumstance pertaining to the work upon which, or the industry in which, she is employed."

At the end of the 1949–50 Basic Wage Inquiry (*see* page 81) the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration by a majority decision fixed a new basic weekly wage for adult females at 75 per cent. of the corresponding male rate operative from the beginning of the first pay-period commencing in December, 1950.

For the new rates payable to adult females employed under State awards *see* pages 98-106.

4. **Australian Territories.**—(i) *Australian Capital Territory.*—Prior to 1922 the lowest rate payable to an unskilled labourer was not defined as a basic wage, as all wages were paid under the authority of the Federal Capital Commission as a lump sum for the particular occupation in which the worker was employed. But in 1922 an Industrial Board commenced to operate under a local Ordinance (*see* page 54).

The basic wage adopted by the Industrial Board in its first determination, operating from 1st May, 1922, was 85s. per week, which reached 100s. per week from 10th October, 1926, and fell to 83s. 4d. from 25th July, 1931—the latter amount allowing for the deduction of 16⅔ per cent. under the Financial Emergency Act then operating.

From 21st October, 1932, the Board adopted as a basic wage the amount of 85s. per week, which was the "Harvester" equivalent (inclusive of the "Powers' 3s.") of the "A" series retail price index-number (1707) for Canberra for the March quarter, 1932, and from two successive dates, 2nd August, 1934, and 1st August, 1935, the amounts declared were also on the same basis.

From 1st July, 1936, however, the Board adopted the "Harvester" equivalent of the Canberra "A" series index-number (1719) for the March quarter, 1936, namely 85s. 6d. (inclusive of the "Powers' 3s."), and at the same time provided for the quarterly adjustment of this wage in accordance with the variations of the "A" series index-numbers for Canberra by means of a special Automatic Adjustment Scale providing for movements in graduations of 1s. per week.

From 10th October, 1941, the Board decided to continue the "Harvester" basis of the wage (inclusive of the "Powers' 3s."), which then had reached 92s. 6d., also to transfer the basis of adjustment from the "A" series to the "C" series index by means of the Commonwealth Court's "C" series Automatic Adjustment Scale ("Shilling" Scale). At the same time the Board added the amount of 3s. per week to the wage in respect of cost of living variations over the war period not registered by the less comprehensive "A" series index, thus making the total basic wage 95s. 6d. per week. The new basis of adjustment was effected by relating the amount of 95s. 6d. to the Canberra "C" series index-number (1037) for the June quarter, 1941 and the index-number division 1031–1043 of the Court's Adjustment Scale (Base: 1923–27 = 81s.), thus providing for the adjustment only of that portion of the total basic wage equivalent to the "needs" portion of the basic wage of the Court.

From 1st December, 1946, a further amount of 7s. per week was added to the above wage, representing the addition to its basic wage, by the Commonwealth Arbitration Court in its "Interim" basic wage judgment of 13th December, 1946. At the same time the basis of adjustment was transferred to the new Adjustment Scale (Base: 1923–27 = 87s.) consequent upon this judgment by relating the amount of 113s. 6d. to the Canberra "C" series index-number (1171) for the September quarter, 1946, and the index-number division of the Scale 1167–1178.

By an amending Ordinance, No. 4 of 1949, the Industrial Board was abolished and its functions were transferred to authorities established under the Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act. Industrial matters are now determined by either the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration or the Conciliation Commissioner assigned to the Australian Capital Territory. It was provided, however, that all existing orders and agreements should continue to operate subject to later orders, awards, and determinations made by the Court or Commissioner.

In reviewing the Australian Capital Territory awards following its decision of 12th October, 1950, the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration fixed the Canberra Basic Wage at £8 5s. per week for adult males, operative from the beginning of the first pay-period in December, 1950. This amount was the "needs" basic wage as expressed by the Court's Second Series index-number for Canberra for the September quarter, 1950 with the prescribed addition of £1 5s. The new rate represented an increase of 13s. 6d. a week over that previously payable.

The rate payable in the Territory (in respect only of workers outside the Commonwealth Public Service) was 236s. per week, operative from the beginning of the first pay-period commencing in November, 1952.

(ii) *Northern Territory.*—The determination of the basic wage for this Territory comes within the jurisdiction of the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration.

There are, in fact, two basic wages operating—(*a*) in respect of areas north of the 20th parallel of South Latitude, and generally referred to as the "Darwin" rate, and (*b*) in respect of areas south of that parallel. These are calculated on different bases as set out in the following paragraphs.

(*a*) *The Darwin Basic Wage.*—This wage was first determined by the Court in 1915* when the Deputy President (Powers *J.*) awarded a rate of £3 17s. per week, or 1s. 9d. per hour for an unskilled labourer, which included an allowance of 4s. for lost time.

The basic wage level again came under consideration when the wage for carpenters and joiners was reviewed by Mr. Justice Powers in 1916–17.† The Judge referred to an agreement dated 2nd June, 1916, between the Amalgamated Carpenters and Joiners and the Northern Agency (formerly Vestey Brothers) which provided for rates based on a budget of the estimated living requirements of a family consisting of a man, wife and two dependent children, amounting to £3 11s. 1d. per week. As the amount awarded (2s. 4d. per hour) for carpenters, however, was over £5 per week, the Judge felt that a fair living wage was fully assured. His Honor stated that he did not find anything to cause him to alter the judgment given on 15th March, 1915, when he prescribed a wage of 1s. 9d. per hour.

Up till 1924 the practice of the Court had been to fix the basic wage in accordance with the principles laid down in 1916, and in connexion with an application in 1924 concerning the rate for employees of the Commonwealth Railways, when the wage for these workers stood at £5 4s. 6d., the Judge (Powers *J.*) refused to alter the wage. He stated that he had in mind the amount of £4 12s., to which he would have felt justified in adding £1 to compensate for the many disadvantages caused by isolation, especially the loss of or extra expense of the proper education of the children. He considered, therefore, that the wage of £5 4s. 6d. then payable contained a special allowance on such account, and that the question of such special allowances was a matter for employers and employees to settle between themselves.‡

In 1927 § Judge Beeby again referred to the regimen of 1916, and implied that since then it had formed the foundation of the basic wages fixed by the Court, and that the sufficiency of the regimen, except as to rent and one or two minor omissions, had never been questioned. On this occasion he fixed the basic wage at £5 10s. per week, or 2s. 6d. per hour, which included 20s. per week district allowance which was suggested by Mr. Justice Powers in his 1924 award as being a reasonable amount.

As there was no adjustment clause in operation in Territory awards, the basic wage of £5 10s. remained in operation until 1934, excepting that it was reduced by the Financial Emergency Act to £4 16s. 3d. per week.

In 1934 ‖ the Full Court for the first time considered the basic wage. The Court brought the regimen of the 1916 agreement up to date, altered the rent figure from 45s. to 65s. per month, and arrived at the amount of

* 9 C.A.R., p. 1. † 11 C.A.R., p. 51. ‡ 20 C.A.R., p. 731. § 25 C.A.R., p. 897. ‖ 38 C.A.R., p. 944.

£4 10s. 9d. per week. This was £1 4s. 9d. above the Court's "needs" basic wage recently declared for the six capital cities, the Court regarding the difference as representing the extra amount required to purchase the same standard of living as in the six capital cities, with nothing by way of compensation allowance.

Automatic adjustment provisions first introduced into the awards by this judgment were effected by inserting an appropriate Adjustment Scale based on the equation of £4 10s. 9d. to the Food and Groceries retail price index-number (Special) 1184 for Darwin for the month of August, 1934.

In 1938* the Court granted a "loading" of 3s. per week on the wage because the Commonwealth Government had extended to the Territory its general civil service increase of £8 per annum.

In 1939† the adjustment clause was suspended pending further inquiry into the basic wage, and an amount of 16s. 3d. was added as an additional "loading", making the total basic wage at that period £5 10s. per week.

In 1941‡ the Full Court again reviewed the basic wage, and after a full investigation of its past history awarded £5 12s. 9d., made up of (*a*) £4 10s. 9d. awarded in 1934; (*b*) 4s. in respect of accrued adjustments since 1939; (*c*) 5s. additional allowance for rent; and (*d*) two constant (unadjustable) "loadings" of 3s. and 10s. per week.

The Court also restored the adjustment clause by equating £4 15s. 9d. of the foregoing amounts (£4 10s. 9d. plus 5s. rent) to the base index 1184 of the former adjustment scale (based solely on the Food and Groceries price index-number). This, however, never became effective owing to its being superseded early in 1942 by the Blakeley Orders referred to below. The two "loadings" were not made adjustable. All other "loadings" mentioned above were dropped.

The basis of adjustment was altered by Mr. Conciliation Commissioner Arthur Blakeley by Orders dated 29th January, 1942,§ owing to the urgent necessity to provide, over the period of the war, for adjustments in respect of rent, clothing and other miscellaneous items of domestic expenditure which, with the exception of rent, had already increased considerably in price throughout Australia, and threatened to increase further as the war continued. Adjustment by means only of the Food and Groceries Index was therefore no longer doing justice to the workers of the Territory, since the workers elsewhere in Australia were enjoying the benefit derived from the adjustment of their wages by means of the more comprehensive "C" series retail price index covering food and groceries, rent, clothing, household drapery, household utensils, fuel, light, fares, smoking and other miscellaneous items of household expenditure.

As there was no All Items ("C" Series) retail price index for the Territory, nor was it possible to compile one on the basis of prices in Darwin, the only alternative was to create a "composite" index with the help of prices for these additional items from some other town of somewhat similar living conditions. The town selected as being most suitable for this purpose was

* 39 C.A.R., p. 501. † 40 C.A.R., p. 323. ‡ 44 C.A.R., p. 253. § 46 C.A.R., p. 411.

Townsville, and the "composite" index was therefore computed on the basis of food and groceries prices in Darwin, combined with Townsville prices for rent, clothing and other miscellaneous items of domestic expenditure mentioned above, the index being designated "The Darwin Special 'All Items' Index".

Taking the December quarter, 1940, as a suitable period upon which adjustments should be based, for which quarter the Special "All Items" index-number was 1036, the Court's basic wage of £4 19s. 9d. (including 4s. for accrued adjustments) declared in its judgment of 7th April, 1941,* was related (not "equated") to the Index-Number Division (1031–1043) containing index-number 1036 of the "C" series adjustment scale formerly used by the Court in its awards (Base: 1923–27 = 1,000 = 81s.), thus giving workers in the Territory the same basis of adjustment as that operating in respect of all workers throughout Australia coming within the jurisdiction of the Court. It should be noted in this connexion that the Court's "needs" equivalent of index-number 1,036 was 84s., so that 15s. 9d. of the Darwin wage was left "unadjustable." The rate payable from 1st February, 1942 (when the new basis first became operative), on the basis of index-number 1,099 for the December quarter, 1941, was therefore £5 17s. 9d., inclusive of 5s. by adjustments under the scale since the December quarter, 1940 (1,036) and the two unadjustable "loadings" of 3s. and 10s. granted by the Court's judgment of 7th April, 1941.

Following the bombing of Darwin on 19th February, 1942, and on subsequent occasions, it was no longer possible to obtain even food and groceries prices in Darwin, and prices from Alice Springs and Tennant Creek were substituted for those of Darwin in the Special Index by means of a suitable "graft" of the new to the old prices in order to cancel out the effect on the index due solely to this substitution.†

On an application by the unions for the addition to the basic wage in the Territory of the amount of 7s. per week added by the Court elsewhere in Australia by its "Interim" Basic Wage Judgment of 13th December, 1946 (*see* page 79, vi), the Full Court on 13th March, 1947, decided to postpone the matter pending a general review of the basic wage in the Territory, although the Court granted the amount in the case of areas south of the 20th parallel of South Latitude (*see* below). This further review was opened in Darwin with preliminary evidence taken by J. H. Portus *C.C.*, on 16th February, 1948, and ultimately dealt with by the Full Court in Adelaide on 20th May, 1948. The Court made an "interim" judgment, pending the hearing and finalization of the basic wage inquiry held in 1949–50 at the instance of the combined unions throughout Australia (*see* page 81, vii), granting the present equivalent of the 7s. referred to above, namely, 8s.; adopting the new Darwin Special "All Items" Index as from the March quarter, 1948 (containing the restored prices of food and groceries for Darwin proper, plus Townsville prices for rent, clothing and miscellaneous items), namely, 1,283; transferred the basis of adjustment from the present Automatic Adjustment Scale ("C" Series) on 1,000 = 81s. per week to the new Scale on 1,000 = 87s. per week [in conformity with the "Court" Index (2nd Series)]; and expressed it to come into operation from the

* 44 C.A.R., p. 253. † 48 C.A.R., p. 20.

beginning of the first pay-period commencing after 20th May, 1948. The resultant total basic wage payable was therefore £7 0s. 9d., made up of £5 12s. (the "needs" equivalent of index-number 1,283 mentioned above), the "unadjustable" amount of 15s. 9d. (*see* page 93) and the loadings 3s. and 10s.

Consequent upon the decision of the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration in the 1949–50 Basic Wage Inquiry (*see* page 81) an "interim" increase of £1 2s. per week was authorized pending a special inquiry into the fixation of a new basic wage for the Northern Territory. As a result of the latter inquiry the Court announced on 19th November, 1951, that it would make an order "based upon the consent and agreement of the parties for a basic wage in the Northern Territory at £10 10s. per week." The new rates were operative from the beginning of the first pay-period commencing in November, 1951. The Darwin Special "All Items" Index (*see* above) was retained as the basis for subsequent quarterly adjustments but with the index-number of 1824 equated to 200s. per week. Subsequently by decisions of the Conciliation Commissioner, a special loading of 10s. per week operative from the same date as the new basic wage was added to the wage rates in most awards applicable to that part of the Northern Territory north of the 20th parallel of South Latitude. This loading should be taken into account in any analysis or comparison involving the basic wage component of such wage rates.

The basic wage for this area of the Northern Territory was 240s. per week, operative from the beginning of the first pay-period commencing in November, 1952.

(*b*) *Northern Territory (South of the 20th parallel of South Latitude).*—There are two main groups of employees in this area of the Northern Territory, namely, employees of the Commonwealth Railways and employees of the Department of Works and Housing (formerly the Works and Services Branch of the Department of the Interior).

The small number of Commonwealth Railways employees engaged in the area are at Alice Springs and in several small permanent-way gangs between Alice Springs and the South Australian border.

Prior to 1937 Commonwealth Railways employees were covered by awards of the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration, but since that year the rates of pay (including the basic wage) have been as prescribed by determinations of the Commonwealth Public Service Arbitrator. It has been the practice of the Court and the Public Service Arbitrator to fix a common base rate for Commonwealth Railways employees (the main centre being Port Augusta) and to provide, by means of "District Allowances", additional rates to employees in isolated areas.

Prior to 3rd February, 1935, Commonwealth employees (other than Commonwealth Railways employees) engaged in the Northern Territory south of the 20th parallel of South Latitude were paid the Darwin basic wage. The Full Court in Judgment issued on 13th November, 1934,* fixed a rate of 80s. per week for Works and Services employees, which included an amount of 7s. per week to cover the cost of freight on goods purchased from the Railway Stores at Port Augusta. This rate compared with £4 10s. 9d. being paid in areas north of the 20th parallel, and with £3 5s. in Adelaide.

* 33 C.A.R., p. 947.

Provision was also made for the adjustment of this wage to be made in the manner provided by the Court for railway employees at Alice Springs, namely, on the basis of the Court's "C" series adjustment scale in accordance with the variations of the "Special" index-number for Port Augusta (inclusive of Railway Stores prices for groceries and dairy produce). Although no base index-number was mentioned, it can be taken that the base index-number division of the scale (809-820 = 66s.) was the starting point of the variations and was related to a total basic wage of £4, as this division contained "C" series index-number 819 (Special) for the September quarter, 1934—from which it will also be observed that only 66s. of the total wage was actually adjustable.

The 3s. per week "loading" granted by the Court in 1938* applied to employees located south of the 20th parallel of South Latitude as well as to those engaged north thereof.

At a hearing on 12th and 13th March, 1947, the Full Court granted to workers in this area the amount of 7s. per week consequent upon its "Interim" Basic Wage Judgment of 13th December, 1946, as an addition to the "adjustable" part of the basic wage applicable. The questions raised as to a general review of the basic wage in the Territory as a whole were postponed pending the hearing and finalization of the basic wage inquiry held in 1949–50 at the instance of the combined Unions of Australia (*see* page 81).

By an Order of 11th October, 1949, the Full Court amended the existing award to provide for the adjustment to date and thereafter (by means of the "C" Series Automatic Adjustment Scale) of the 7s. per week "excess" over the contemporaneous "needs" rate granted by the Full Court on 13th November, 1934.†

The relevant "Special" "C" Series index-number for the latter period (as indicated above) was 819, equivalent to a "needs" wage of £3 6s. per week, and the above adjustment was effected by an additional column to the Scale calculated on the basis of raising the weekly "needs" equivalents by the ratio of 66s. to 73s., or by multiplying the successive weekly "needs" rates by the factor 1.10606. Thus, the base rate of the Scale 1000 = 87s. became 96s.

The Order was expressed to come into operation from the first Sunday in December, 1949, on the basis of the index-number for the September quarter, 1949, as the starting point. The "needs" rate for this was £6 1s. which by the above formula became £6 14s., and to this was added the loadings previously payable of 7s. for "Freight Costs" and 3s. for "Prosperity" loading, making a total basic wage of £7 4s., representing an increase of 6s. per week over the former basis of calculation.

Consequent upon the decision of the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration in the 1949–50 Basic Wage Inquiry (*see* page 81) an "interim" increase of £1 2s. per week was authorized pending a special inquiry into the fixation of a new basic wage for the Northern Territory. As a result of the latter inquiry the Court announced on 19th November, 1951, that it would make an order "based upon the consent and agreement of the parties for a basic wage in the Northern Territory at £10 10s. per week." The new rates were operative from the beginning of the first

* 29 C.A.R., p. 501. † 33 C.A.R., p. 947.

pay-period commencing in November, 1951. The Port Augusta Special "All Items" Index (*see* above) was retained as the basis for subsequent quarterly adjustments but with the index-number of 1757 equated to 194s. per week. Subsequently by decisions of the Conciliation Commissioner, a special loading of 7s. per week operative from the same date as the new basic wage was added to the wage rates in most awards applicable to that part of the Northern Territory south of the 20th parallel of South Latitude. This loading should be taken into account in any analysis or comparison involving the basic wage component of such wage rates.

The basic wage for this area of the Northern Territory was 243s. per week, operative from the beginning of the first pay-period commencing in November, 1952.

5. **State Basic Wages.**—(i) *New South Wales.*—The first determination under the New South Wales Industrial Arbitration Act of a standard "living" wage for adult male employees was made on 16th February, 1914, when the Court of Industrial Arbitration fixed the "living" wage at £2 8s. per week for adult male employees in the metropolitan area. Determinations of the "living" wage in New South Wales were made by the Court of Industrial Arbitration during the period 1914 to 1916. The Board of Trade was established in 1918, and was empowered to determine the "living" wage for adult male and female employees in the State. Its first declaration was made on 5th September, 1918, and numerous declarations were made during the period 1918 to 1925, the last declaration being that of 24th August, 1925. The Board ceased to function after the Industrial Arbitration (Amendment) Act 1926 established the Industrial Commission of New South Wales, which exercised the powers of the Board of Trade as from 15th April, 1926. The Industrial Arbitration (Amendment) Act No. 45, 1927, altered the constitution of the Industrial Commission from a single Commissioner to one consisting of three members. Act No. 14 of 1936, however, provided for the appointment of four members and Act No. 36 of 1938 for the appointment of not less than five and not more than six members. The Commission was directed, *inter alia*, "not more frequently than once in every six months to determine a standard of living and to declare . . . . the living wages based upon such standard for adult male and female employees in the State." The Industrial Arbitration (Amendment) Act 1932 directed the Commission within twenty-eight days from the end of the months of March and September to adjust the living wages so declared to accord with the increased or decreased cost of maintaining the determined standard. The first declaration of the Commission was made on 15th December, 1926, when the rate for adult males was fixed at £4 4s. per week, the same rate as that previously declared by the Board of Trade. The adult male rate was determined on the family unit of a man, wife and two children from 1914 to 1925; a man and wife only in 1927, with family allowances for dependent children; and a man, wife, and one child in 1929, with family allowances for other dependent children. With the adoption in 1937 of the Commonwealth basic wage, however (*see* below), the identification of a specified family unit with the basic wage disappeared.

Employees in rural industries are not covered by the rates shown in the following table; a living wage for rural workers of £3 6s. per week was in force for twelve months from October, 1921, and a rate of £4 4s. operated from June, 1927, to December, 1929, when the power of industrial tribunals to fix a living wage for rural workers was withdrawn.

The variations in the living wage determined by the industrial tribunals of New South Wales are shown below :—

Basic Wage Variations in New South Wales.

(State Jurisdiction.)

Male.		Female.	
Date of Declaration.	Basic Wage per Week.	Date of Declaration.	Basic Wage per Week.
	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
16th February, 1914 ..	2 8 0	..	..
17th December, 1915 ..	2 12 6	..	..
18th August, 1916 ..	2 15 6	..	..
5th September, 1918 ..	3 0 0	17th December, 1918 ..	1 10 0
8th October, 1919 ..	3 17 0	23rd December, 1919 ..	1 19 0
8th October, 1920 ..	4 5 0	23rd December, 1920 ..	2 3 0
8th October, 1921 ..	4 2 0	22nd December, 1921 ..	2 1 0
12th May, 1922	3 18 0	9th October, 1922 ..	1 19 6
10th April, 1923	3 19 0	(*a*)	2 0 0
7th September, 1923 ..	4 2 0	.. .. ..	2 1 6
24th August, 1925 ..	4 4 0	.. .. ..	2 2 6
27th June, 1927	4 5 0	.. .. ..	2 6 0
20th December, 1929 ..	4 2 6	.. .. ..	2 4 6
26th August, 1932 ..	3 10 0	.. .. ..	1 18 0
11th April, 1933	3 8 6	.. .. ..	1 17 0
20th October, 1933 ..	3 6 6	.. .. ..	1 16 0
26th April, 1934	3 7 6	.. .. ..	1 16 6
18th April, 1935	3 8 6	.. .. ..	1 17 0
24th April, 1936	3 9 0	.. .. ..	(*b*)1 17 6
27th October, 1936 ..	3 10 0	.. .. ..	1 18 0
27th April, 1937	3 11 6(*c*)	.. .. ..	1 18 6

(*a*) Dates of declarations from 1923 on were the same as those for male rate.
(*b*) Rate declared, £1 15s. 6d., but law amended to provide a rate for females at 54 per cent. of that of males.
(*c*) Hereafter wages are fixed and adjusted quarterly in accordance with the practice of the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration for details of which and latest rates *see* next page.

Following on the judgment of the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration of 23rd June, 1937, referred to on page 77 the Government of New South Wales decided to bring the State Basic Wage into line with the Commonwealth rates ruling in the State, and secured an amendment of the Industrial Arbitration Act (No. 9 of 1937) to give effect thereto. The Act was passed on 7th October, 1937, and came into operation from the commencement of the first pay-period in October, practically from 1st October, 1937. The general principles laid down by the Commonwealth Court were followed as closely as practicable and provision was made for the automatic adjustment of wages in conformity with variations of retail prices as shown by the Commonwealth Court's "All Items" Retail Price Index-numbers, shortly known as the "Court" Series of Index-numbers. The Commonwealth Court's principle of treating the "Prosperity" loadings as a separate and non-adjustable part of the total basic wage was adopted. The rates for country towns were, with certain exceptions, fixed at 3s. per week below the metropolitan rate; and Crown employees, as defined, received a "Prosperity" loading of 5s. per week, as against the 6s. laid down for employees in outside industry. The basic rate for adult females was fixed at 54 per cent. of the adult male rate to the nearest 6d. The provisions of the main Acts for the periodic declaration of the living wage by the Industrial Commission were repealed, but the amending Act placed on the Commission the responsibility of altering all awards and agreements in conformity with the

intentions of the new Act; to define boundaries within which the various rates are to operate;* and to specify the appropriate "Court" Series retail price index-numbers to which they are to be related.

The judgment of the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration of 12th October, 1950, necessitated attention by the legislature to the clauses of the Industrial Arbitration Act providing for the automatic adjustment of rates of pay based on the Commonwealth Basic Wage Judgment of 23rd June, 1937.

An amendment to the Industrial Arbitration Act was assented to on 23rd November, 1950, which empowered the Industrial Commission to vary the terms of awards and industrial agreements affecting male rates of pay, to the extent to which the Commission thought fit, to give effect to the alteration in the basic wage for adult males made by the Commonwealth judgment. In the case of female rates of pay the Commission was empowered to review the terms of awards and industrial agreements and to vary such terms as in the circumstances the Commission decided proper, but no variation was to fix rates of pay for female employees lower than the Commonwealth basic wage for adult females.

To facilitate the work of the Commission, awards were divided into separate classes, and orders issued regarding the variations to be made to those in each class. The rates for adult males were increased by the same amounts as the corresponding Commonwealth rates, with special provision to cover the cases of apprentices, casual workers and employees on piecework. In deciding the variation for female employees the Commission prescribed an increase in the total wage rate (i.e., basic wage plus marginal rate) of £1 4s. 6d. per week subject to the statutory provision (incorporated in the amendment of 23rd November) that the minimum total rate was to be not less than the basic wage for adult females prescribed in Commonwealth awards, that is, at least 75 per cent. of the corresponding male basic wage rate.

In the judgment delivered on 9th March, 1951, giving reasons for its decision on female rates, the Commission decided that the basic wage for adult females prescribed by the Commonwealth Court in reality included a portion "due to secondary considerations," and could not be considered a "reasonable and proper basic wage for the assessment of rates of female employees under the Industrial Arbitration Act".

In discussing the composition of the amount of £6 3s. 6d. which the Commonwealth Court in its judgment of October, 1950, had prescribed as the basic wage for adult females in New South Wales, the Commission stated:—

> "After giving the matter fullest consideration, we think in the circumstances it is reasonable to allocate £1 of the said sum of £6 3s. 6d. to secondary considerations and to regard the amount of £1 4s. 6d. as an addition proper to be made to the pre-existing basic wage in New South Wales of £3 19s. The total, £5 3s. 6d. becomes therefore the true female basic wage in New South Wales. To state the decision the Commission has reached in other words, the Commission assesses the true basic wage or foundational wage which it is proper to apply when adjusting, or in the course of making future awards assessing rates of female employees under the Industrial Arbitration Act, as £5 3s. 6d. per week."

As a consequence of the overriding statutory requirement that no rate for adult females in State awards shall fall below the Commonwealth basic

---

See N.S.W. Industrial Gazette 1937, Vol. 52, pages 783–4.

wage for adult females, the amount of the quarterly adjustments to the female basic wage for changes in the " Court " series index-numbers is the same in Commonwealth and State awards.

By an amendment of the Industrial Arbitration Act in June, 1951, the differentiation in rates for the basic wage in different districts and for employees under Crown awards was eliminated as a general rule, making the basic wage throughout the State equal to that paid in Sydney, with the main exception of the Broken Hill district where a different basic rate still prevails.

The rates applicable from the beginning of the first pay-period commencing in November, 1952, in the metropolitan area, under this system of fixation and adjustment, were £11 17s. per week for adult males and £8 17s. 6d. for adult females.

The principle of supplementing wages by a payment in respect of dependent children under fourteen years of age operated in New South Wales from July, 1927, until superseded by the Commonwealth Government scheme from 1st July, 1941, and a brief account of the main features of the system appeared on page 103 of Labour Report No. 36.

(ii) *Victoria.*—Up to October, 1934, no basic wage was fixed by any State authority in Victoria, but the Wages Boards followed the rates of the Commonwealth Court to a large extent, and also made similar periodical adjustments in accordance with variations in retail prices. With the passing of the Factories and Shops Acts, No. 4,275 of 1934 which operated from 17th October, 1934, and No. 4,461 of 1936, it is obligatory on all Wages Boards to adopt Commonwealth Award rates and conditions " which such Boards are under the Factories and Shops Acts empowered to include in their determinations ". The 1934 Act further provides for the Secretary for Labour to make adjustments of wages according to variations in retail price index-numbers without calling the Boards together for the purpose, in respect of all Determinations which include an adjustment clause.

In accordance with the decisions of the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration to increase the male and female basic wages from December, 1950 (*see* page 81) the Wages Boards met and incorporated the new Commonwealth rates in their determinations.

The adult male weekly rate for Melbourne was increased by 19s. to £8 2s. and the new adult female rate became £6 1s. 6d. (75 per cent. of the adult male rate).

The Commonwealth rates for Melbourne operative from the beginning of the first pay-period commencing in November, 1952, were £11 8s. per week for adult males and £8 11s. per week for adult females.

(iii) *Queensland.*—The Industrial Conciliation and Arbitration Act No. 28 of 1929 repealed the Industrial Arbitration Act 1916 and amendments thereof, and the Basic Wage Act of 1925. The Board of Trade and Arbitration was abolished, and a Court, called the Industrial Court, was established. The Act provides that it shall be the duty of the Court to make declarations as to—(*a*) the " basic " wage, and (*b*) the maximum weekly hours to be worked in industry (called the " standard " hours). For the purposes of making any such declarations the Court shall be constituted by the Judge and two members one of whom shall be also a member of the Queensland Prices Board.

The main provisions to be observed by the Court when determining the " basic " wage are—(*a*) the minimum wage of an adult male employee shall be not less than is sufficient to maintain a well-conducted employee

of average health, strength and competence, and his wife and a family of three children in a fair and average standard of comfort, having regard to the conditions of living prevailing among employees in the calling in respect of which such minimum wage is fixed, and provided that the earnings of the children or wife of such employee shall not be taken into account; (*b*) the minimum wage of an adult female employee shall be not less than is sufficient to enable her to support herself in a fair and average standard of comfort, having regard to the nature of her duties and to the conditions of living prevailing among female employees in the calling in respect of which such minimum wage is fixed. The Court shall, in the matter of making declarations in regard to the "basic" wage or "standard" hours, take into consideration the probable economic effect of such declaration in relation to the community in general, and the probable economic effect thereof upon industry or any industry or industries concerned.

The first formal declaration by the Industrial Arbitration Court in this State of a basic wage was gazetted on 24th February, 1921, when the basic wage was declared at £4 5s. per week for adult males, and £2 3s. for adult females. Prior to this declaration the rate of £3 17s. per week for adult males had been generally recognized by the Court in its awards as the "basic" or "living" wage. The declarations of the Industrial Court are published in the Queensland Industrial Gazette and the various rates declared are as follows:—

Basic Wage Variations in Queensland.

(*State Jurisdiction.*)

Date of Operation.	Adult Basic Wage.	
	Male.	Female.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1st March, 1921	4 5 0	2 3 0
1st March, 1922	4 0 0	2 1 0
28th September, 1925 (*a*)	4 5 0	2 3 0
1st August, 1930	4 0 0	2 1 0
1st December, 1930	3 17 0	1 19 6
1st July, 1931	3 14 0	1 19 0
1st April, 1937	3 18 0	2 1 0
1st April, 1938	4 1 0	2 3 0
7th August, 1939	4 4 0	2 5 0
31st March, 1941	4 9 0	2 8 0
4th May, 1942 (*b*)	4 11 0	2 9 6
23rd December, 1946 (*c*)	5 5 0	3 0 6
7th December, 1950 (*c*)	7 14 0	5 2 6

(*a*) Fixed by Basic Wage Act. (*b*) Quarterly adjustments provided by judgment of 21st April, 1942—*see* below. (*c*) Consequent upon basic wage increases granted by the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration.

The amount of 89s. which, taking the most favorable view of the standard of living, the Court considered complied with the requirements of Section 9 of the Act, was continued in operation up to and including the Court's declaration of 15th April, 1942. In order, however, to ensure that this amount would continue to comply with these requirements under prevailing conditions created by the war, the Court indicated its intention "to declare it quarterly on the cost of living 'C' Series (All Items) index, commencing with the figures for the first quarter of 1942". In accordance with this undertaking the Court, on 21st April, 1942, raised, as from 4th May, 1942, the basic wage to 91s. per week for adult

males and 49s. 6d. for adult females on the basis of the variation in retail prices shown by the index-numbers mentioned for Brisbane between the December quarter, 1941, and the March quarter, 1942. Since then, quarterly adjustments have been made to the basic wage in accordance with changes in the "C" Series (All Items) index.

In view of the "Interim" Basic Wage judgment of the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration in December, 1946 (*see* page 79), the Queensland Industrial Court granted an increase in the basic wage of 7s. for adult males and 5s. for adult females to operate from 23rd December, 1946.

Following the decision of the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration to increase the male and female basic wage from December, 1950 (*see* page 81) the Industrial Arbitration Court of Queensland conducted an inquiry as to what change should be made to the State Basic Wage for Queensland.

By a majority decision on 30th November, 1950, the Industrial Court granted an increase of 15s. weekly to both adult males and adult females thus increasing the metropolitan rates to £7 14s. per week and £5 2s. 6d. per week respectively. The increases became operative from 7th December, 1950.

The new male rate of £7 14s. corresponded to the Commonwealth Basic Wage for the Brisbane metropolitan area and this parity has since been maintained although the dates on which the quarterly changes become operative do not necessarily correspond with those prescribed for Commonwealth awards.

The new female rate of £5 2s. 6d. represented 66 per cent. of the male rate instead of 63 per cent. (approximately) as previously, and this 66 per cent. determines the basic wage payable to adult females.

The judgment of the Queensland Industrial Court may be found in the supplement to the *Queensland Industrial Gazette*, Vol. 35, No. 4, page 1253.

The rates payable in accordance with regular quarterly variations from 3rd November, 1952, were £10 16s. for adult males and £7 4s. 6d. for adult females.

The rates shown above are applicable throughout the Southern Division (Eastern District—including Brisbane); allowances are added for other areas as follows:—Southern Division (Western District), 7s. 4d.; Mackay Division, 5s. 6d.; Northern Division (Eastern District), 10s.; and Northern Division (Western District) 17s. 4d. Half of these allowances are granted to females.*

(iv) *South Australia.*—The Industrial Code 1920-1951 provides that the Board of Industry shall, after public inquiry as to the increase or decrease in the average cost of living, declare the "living wage" to be paid to adult male employees and to adult female employees. The Board has power also to fix different rates to be paid in different defined areas.

It is provided that the Board of Industry shall hold an inquiry for the purpose of declaring the "living wage" whenever a substantial change in the cost of living or any other circumstance has, in the opinion of the Board, rendered it just and expedient to review the question of the "living wage", but a new determination cannot be made by the Board until the expiration of at least six months from the date of its previous determination.

The Board of Industry consists of five members, one nominated by the Minister for Industry, two nominated by the South Australian Employers' Federation as representatives of employers, and two nominated by the United Trades and Labour Council of South Australia as representatives of employees. The member nominated by the Minister is President and presides at all meetings of the Board.

* As defined in *Queensland Industrial Gazette*, 10th December, 1921, page 826.

According to the Industrial Code 1920–1951, "living wage" means a sum sufficient for the normal and reasonable needs of the average employee living in the locality where the work under consideration is done or is to be done.

The family unit is not specifically defined in the Code, but the South Australian Industrial Court in 1920 decided that the "average employee" in respect of whom the "living wage" is to be declared is a man with a wife and three children.

The first declaration of the "living wage" was made by the Board of Industry on 15th July, 1921, when the "living wage" for adult male employees in the metropolitan area was determined at £3 19s. 6d. per week. The "living wage" for adult female employees in the same area was declared on 11th August, 1921, at £1 15s. per week.

Following on the declaration of an "interim" increase in its "needs" basic wage by the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration on 13th December, 1946 (*see* page 79) the South Australian Parliament passed the Economic Stability Act No. 52 of 1946. By virtue of this Act and all other enabling powers, the Governor may, by proclamation, declare, *inter alia*, the "daily living wage" for adult males in the metropolitan area to be one-sixth of the Commonwealth basic weekly wage for this area. A proclamation dated 24th December, 1946, was accordingly made by the Governor, declaring the rate of 102s. per week, inclusive of the "prosperity loading" of 4s. This rate operated from 7th January, 1947. The Act mentioned also provided for similar proclamations in respect of any adjustment of such wage, but the powers of the Board of Industry to declare a "living wage" were retained, and any such wage so declared will supersede that declared by proclamation.

The variations in the "living wages" determined by the Board of Industry are shown below, and apply to the whole State :—

Living Wage Variations in South Australia.

(*State Jurisdiction.*)

Male.		Female.	
Date of Operation.	Living Wage per Week.	Date of Operation.	Living Wage per Week.
	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
4th August, 1921	3 19 6	1st September, 1921 ..	1 15 0
27th April, 1922	3 17 6	..	..
8th November, 1923 ..	3 18 6	..	..
15th May, 1924	4 2 0	13th November, 1924 ..	1 18 0
13th August, 1925 ..	4 5 6	3rd September, 1925 ..	1 19 6
30th October, 1930 ..	3 15 0	15th January, 1931 ..	1 15 0
10th September, 1931 ..	3 3 0	24th December, 1931 ..	1 11 6
7th November, 1935 ..	3 6 0	16th January, 1936 ..	1 13 0
7th January, 1937 ..	3 9 6	29th April, 1937.. ..	1 14 9
25th November, 1937 ..	3 14 0	(*a*)	1 16 6
5th January, 1939 ..	3 18 0	.. .. ..	1 18 0
28th November, 1940 ..	4 4 0	.. .. ..	2 1 0
27th November, 1941 ..	4 7 0	.. .. ..	2 3 6
15th October, 1942 ..	4 14 0	.. .. ..	2 6 2
26th September, 1946 ..	4 18 6	.. .. ..	2 15 0
7th January, 1947(*b*) ..	5 2 0	.. .. ..	2 17 0
8th July, 1948	5 17 0	.. .. ..	3 6 6
19th May, 1949	6 5 0	.. .. ..	3 8 6

(*a*) From 1937 dates of operation were the same as those for male rates. (*b*) Commonwealth rate for metropolitan area adopted.

The Industrial Code Amendment Act No. 65 of 1949 made provision for the quarterly adjustment of the "living wage" in accordance with the variations in the Commonwealth basic wage consequent on the changes in the Court Series index of retail prices for Adelaide. In effect this resulted in parity between the State Living Wage and the Commonwealth Basic Wage from the beginning of the first pay-period commencing in February, 1950.

The prescribed adjustment to the female "living wage" was seven-twelfths of the same adjustment to the Commonwealth male basic wage.

The Board of Industry retained power to amend the "living wage" but any new "living wage" was to be adjusted quarterly as above.

Following the decisions of the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration in the 1949–50 Basic Wage Inquiry (*see* page 81), the South Australian legislation was amended to enable, *inter alia*, the "living wage" to be altered by proclamation "in order to avoid unjustifiable differences between rates of wage fixed under Commonwealth and State laws respectively".

By proclamation dated 30th November, 1950, the South Australian Living Wage in the metropolitan area was increased from £6 17s. to £7 18s. for adult males and from £3 14s. 11d. to £5 18s. 6d. for adult females, operative from 4th December, 1950. These new rates were identical with the December rates fixed by the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration for the metropolitan area of South Australia.

There was thus an increase of £1 1s. per week for adult males and £2 3s. 7d. for adult females. The larger increase for females was attributable to the change in the percentage of the male rate upon which the female rate was based. Previously the female rate had been approximately 54 per cent. of the male basic wage but by the proclamation the female basic wage was increased to 75 per cent. of the corresponding male rate.

The rates payable in accordance with the quarterly adjustments notified by the President of the Board of Industry, operating from the beginning of the first pay-period commencing in November, 1952, were £11 9s. per week for adult males, and £8 11s. 6d. for adult females.

(v) *Western Australia*.—The Court of Arbitration, appointed under the provisions of the Industrial Arbitration Act 1912–1950, determines and declares the "basic wage" in this State. The Court consists of three members appointed by the Governor, one on the recommendation of the industrial unions of employers, one on the recommendation of the industrial unions of employees, while the third member is a Judge of the Supreme Court. The last-mentioned member is the President of the Court.

The Industrial Arbitration Act 1912–1950 provides that the Court of Arbitration may determine and declare a basic wage at any time on its own motion, and must do so when requested by a majority of industrial unions or by the Western Australian Employers' Federation, with the limitation that no new determination shall be made within twelve months of the last preceding inquiry.

The term "basic wage" is defined in the Act as "a wage which the Court considers to be just and reasonable for the average worker to whom it applies". In determining what is just and reasonable the Court must take into account not only the "needs of an average worker" but also the "economic capacity of industry" and any other matters the Court deems relevant.

The family unit is not specifically defined in the Act, but it has been the practice of the Court to take as a basis of its calculations a man, his wife and two dependent children.

Provision is also made in the Act for quarterly adjustments of the "basic wage" by the Court of Arbitration when an official statement supplied to the Court by the State Government Statistician relating to the cost of living shows that a variation of 1s. or more per week has occurred, compared with the preceding quarter. These adjustments apply from the dates of declaration by the Court.

The annual and special declarations of the Court of Arbitration under the provisions of the Industrial Arbitration Act are shown for the various areas in the State in the following table. It must be noted that prior to 1950 the legislation differed from that outlined above. Particulars of the previous legislation will be found in earlier issues of the Labour Report.

Basic Wage Variations in Western Australia.

(*State Jurisdiction.*)

Date of Operation.	Metropolitan Area.						South-West Land Division.						Goldfields Areas and Other Parts of State.					
	Male.			Female.			Male.			Female.			Male.			Female.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
1st July, 1926 ..	4	5	0	2	5	11	4	5	0	2	5	11	4	5	0	2	5	11
,, ,, 1929 ..	4	7	0	2	7	0	4	7	0	2	7	0	a4	7	0	a2	7	0
,, ,, 1930 ..	4	6	0	2	6	5	4	5	0	2	5	11	4	5	0	2	5	11
,, ,, 1931 ..	3	18	0	2	2	2	3	17	0	2	1	8	3	17	0	2	1	8
,, ,, 1932 ..	3	12	0	1	18	11	3	13	6	1	19	8	3	18	0	2	2	2
,, ,, 1933 ..	3	8	0	1	16	9	3	9	6	1	17	6	3	17	6	2	1	10
,, ,, 1934 ..	3	9	6	1	17	6	3	10	0	1	17	10	3	19	6	2	2	11
,, ,, 1935 ..	3	10	6	1	18	1	3	11	2	1	18	5	4	4	4	2	5	6
,, ,, 1936 ..	3	10	6	1	18	1	3	11	9	1	18	9	4	6	0	2	6	5
,, ,, 1937 ..	3	13	9	1	19	10	3	14	8	2	0	4	4	7	0	2	7	0
,, ,, 1938 ..	4	0	0	2	3	2	4	1	0	2	3	9	4	13	3	2	10	4
,, ,, 1939 ..	b4	2	2	b2	4	4	4	3	1	2	4	10	b4	16	4	b2	12	0
,, ,, 1940 ..	4	2	8	2	4	8	4	3	3	2	4	11	4	16	3	2	12	0
,, ,, 1941(c) ..	4	8	0	2	7	6	4	9	3	2	8	2	5	3	6	2	15	11
,, ,, 1943 ..	4	19	1	2	13	6	4	18	1	2	13	0	5	5	9	2	17	1
,, ,, 1944 ..	4	19	11	2	13	11	4	19	8	2	13	10	5	7	1	2	17	10
,, ,, 1945 ..	5	0	1	2	14	1	4	19	7	2	13	9	5	7	5	2	18	0
,, ,, 1946 ..	5	1	1	2	14	7	5	0	6	2	14	3	5	9	0	2	18	10
26th Feb., 1947(d) ..	5	7	1	2	17	10	5	6	6	2	17	6	5	15	4	3	2	3
1st July, 1947 ..	5	7	10	2	18	3	5	7	3	2	17	11	5	16	0	3	2	8
,, ,, 1948 ..	5	15	9	3	2	6	5	15	2	3	2	2	6	4	9	3	7	4
,, ,, 1949 ..	6	7	1	3	8	8	6	6	9	3	8	5	6	15	1	3	12	11
,, ,, 1950 ..	7	0	0	3	15	7	6	19	9	3	15	6	7	7	3	3	19	6
18th Dec., 1950(d) ..	8	6	6	4	14	1	8	6	7	4	14	2	8	14	8	4	18	6

(*a*) Excluding Goldfields areas, where rates were the same as those operating from 1st July, 1926. (*b*) Applicable from 24th April, 1939. (*c*) Applicable from 28th April, 1941. (*d*) Special declarations following basic wage increases granted by the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration.

The first declarations of the "basic wage" by the Court of Arbitration since the authority to fix one was vested in the Court by the Industrial Arbitration Act of 1925 was made on 11th June, 1926, when the rate for adult male employees was determined at £4 5s. per week, and for adult female employees at £2 5s. 11d. per week. Since that date the principal inquiries have been those of 1938, 1947 and 1950.

The declaration of 13th June, 1938 (operative from 1st July) was based on the findings of the Royal Commission on the Basic Wage, 1920 (*see* page 106). For this purpose the Court reduced the amount recommended by the Commission for a five-unit family to the equivalent for a four-unit family, and brought the resulting amounts up to their purchasing equivalents at the March quarter, 1938, by means of the separate "group" retail price index-numbers in respect of the sections for food, clothing and miscellaneous expenditure, and for rent added an amount which was considered fair under ruling conditions.

The increased basic wage of 26th February, 1947, was granted after an inquiry by the Western Australian Court of Arbitration consequent upon the "interim" basic wage judgment of the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration in December, 1946 (*see* page 79).

Following the judgment of the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration in the 1949–50 Basic Wage Inquiry (*see* page 81) the Western Australian Court of Arbitration resumed an inquiry which had been adjourned, to ascertain what change should be made in the State Basic Wage rates. In its judgment of 7th December, 1950, the Court decided that the basic wage should be increased by £1 per week for adult males and by 15s. per week for adult females. The rates in the metropolitan area then became £8 6s. 6d. for adult males and £4 14s. 1d. for adult females, operative from 18th December, 1950.

In relation to the female rate the unions' claim had been for a basic wage equal to 75 per cent. of the male rate instead of the existing 54 per cent. basis. Although this claim was not granted it was intimated that the increase of 15s. should not necessarily be regarded as the Court's final word on the subject.

The judgment of the Court may be found on page 336 of the *Western Australian Industrial Gazette*, Volume 30, Nos. 3–4.

As the result of a subsequent inquiry the basic wage for adult females was increased to 65 per cent. of the corresponding male rate, operative from 1st December, 1951. This was subject to the condition that the increase should be offset by the reduction in or deletion of existing margins between the basic wage and total wage as specified by the appropriate award or determination.

The rates payable in the metropolitan area in accordance with the quarterly adjustments declared by the Court, operating from 27th October, 1952, were £11 18s. 6d. for adult males and £7 15s. for adult females.

(vi) *Tasmania.*—No State basic wage is fixed by any State authority in Tasmania, but Wages Boards follow to a large extent the rates of the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration and adjust wages automatically or otherwise in accordance with variations in retail price index-numbers in conformity with provisions of the Wages Board Act.

Consequent upon the decision of the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration in the 1949–50 Basic Wage Inquiry (*see* page 81) the Tasmanian Wages Boards met and incorporated the new Commonwealth basic wage rates in their determinations. The adult male weekly rate for Hobart was increased by £1 1s. to £8 and the new adult female rate became £6 (75 per cent. of the adult male rate).

The Commonwealth adult male rate for Hobart operative from the beginning of the first pay-period commencing in November, 1952, was £11 10s. and the adult female rate is 75 per cent. of the male rate (£8 12s. 6d).

(vii) *Rates Prescribed.*—The "basic wage" rates of State industrial tribunals operative in February and November, 1952, are summarized in the following table :—

State Basic Wage : Weekly Rates.

State.	February, 1952.			November, 1952.		
	Date of Operation.	Males.	Females.	Date of Operation.	Males.	Females.
		s. d.	s. d.		s. d.	s. d.
New South Wales—						
Metropolitan and Country, excluding Broken Hill ..	(a)	216 0	162 0	(a)	237 0	177 6
Broken Hill ..	(a)	225 0	168 6	(a)	246 0	184 6
Victoria (b)	(a)	209 0	156 6	(a)	228 0	171 0
Queensland—						
Southern Division (Eastern District) -including Brisbane (c) ..	4.2.52	199 0	133 0	3.11.52	216 0	144 6
South Australia ..	(a)	205 0	153 6	(a)	229 0	171 6
Western Australia—						
Metropolitan Area ..	29.1.52	214 1	139 2	27.10.52	238 6	155 0
South-West Land Division ..	29.1.52	213 8	138 11	27.10.52	239 2	155 6
Goldfields and other areas	29.1.52	219 8	142 9	27.10.52	244 2	158 9
Tasmania (b) ..	(a)	208 0	156 0	(a)	230 0	172 6

(a) Operative from beginning of first pay-period commencing in month shown. (b) None declared but rates (Capital City) shown are those of Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration which are followed to a large extent. (c) Allowances added for other areas :—Males—Southern Division (Western District), 7s. 4d. ; Mackay Division, 5s. 6d. ; Northern Division (Eastern District), 10s. ; Northern Division (Western District), 17s. 4d. ; Females—Half of these allowances.

6. **Royal Commission on Basic Wage, 1920.**—The Commonwealth Government appointed a Royal Commission in 1919 to inquire into and report upon the following matters :—

(i) The actual cost of living at that time, according to reasonable standards of comfort, including all matters comprised in the ordinary expenditure of a household, for a man with a wife and three children under fourteen years of age, and the several items and amounts which made up that cost.

(ii) The actual corresponding cost of living during each of the previous five years.

(iii) How the basic wage might be automatically adjusted to the rise and fall from time to time of the purchasing-power of money.

The Commission issued two reports—the first in November, 1920, and the second in April, 1921. These reports show that, according to the standard assumed by the Commission, the cost of living as at 1st November, 1920, for a family consisting of man, wife, and three children under fourteen years of age, was as follows :—

Royal Commission on Basic Wage: Cost of Living, 1st November, 1920.

Particulars.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Food ..	2 6 9	2 6 2	2 3 1	2 7 2	2 4 11	2 8 11
Rent ..	1 2 0	1 0 6	0 17 0	0 19 6	0 19 0	0 19 0
Clothing ..	1 7 0	1 9 0	1 6 0	1 8 3	1 7 9	1 9 2
Miscellaneous ..	1 1 4	1 0 10	1 0 1	1 1 2	1 2 3	0 19 10
Total (*a*) ..	5 17 1	5 16 6	5 6 2	5 16 1	5 13 11	5 16 11

(*a*) Weighted Average Six Capitals—£5 15s. 8d., but no recommendation made.

The corresponding costs of the commodities and services included (which are fully set out in the first report) for the years 1914 to 1920 were as follows :—

Royal Commission on Basic Wage: Cost of Living, 1914 to 1920.

Years.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1914 ..	3 12 11	3 7 9	3 4 0	3 11 2	3 12 9	3 6 9
1915 ..	4 1 6	3 16 9	3 11 3	3 19 0	3 17 1	3 15 1
1916 ..	4 4 6	3 17 5	3 13 10	3 19 7	4 1 2	3 15 6
1917 ..	4 9 8	4 2 2	3 19 3	4 3 2	4 4 2	4 4 10
1918 ..	4 14 8	4 8 10	4 6 0	4 10 11	4 9 2	4 8 6
1919 ..	5 5 3	4 18 5	4 15 10	5 2 6	5 0 9	5 0 4
1920 ..	5 17 1	5 16 6	5 6 2	5 16 1	5 13 11	5 16 11

In answer to the third clause of the inquiry, the Commission recommended that " a Bureau of Labour should be organized from existing members of the Public Service, which should ascertain from time to time the rise and fall in the purchasing-power of money in relation to the reasonable standard of comfort for the typical family (i.e., such a family as is described in Clause 1)". After consulting the Commonwealth Statistician as to methods of collection and tabulation, the Government decided that the recommendation would be met by widening the scope of inquiries of this nature already made by the Commonwealth Bureau of Census and Statistics, the outcome of which was the creation of the All Items (" C " Series) Index of Retail Prices, particulars of which are published on pages 5, 10 and 18–27 of this Report.

The recommendations of this Commission in respect of the basic wage were not carried out, owing largely to the marked advance the amounts suggested represented over ruling rates,* and the grave doubts expressed as to the ability of industry to pay such rates.

The standards of this wage, however, were implemented to a certain extent in the " Living Wage " declarations of the Industrial Commission of New South Wales in 1926 to 1932.

The amounts recommended were also adopted with slight modifications by the Industrial Court of Western Australia in 1926 and again in 1938 on the basis of a four-unit family, further particulars of which will be found on page 105.

* The " Harvester " equivalent for Melbourne as at the time (September quarter, 1920) was £4 13s. per week, but only £3 18s. to £4 2s. was being paid on the basis of an annual index-number.

7. **Child Endowment.**—The Commonwealth Government, in June, 1927, called a conference at Melbourne of the Premiers of the several States to consider the question of child endowment from a national standpoint. The Prime Minister submitted various estimates of the cost of endowing dependent children under fourteen years of age in Australia at 5s. per week. After discussion, it was decided to refer the matter to a Royal Commission to be appointed by the Commonwealth Government.

The Commission submitted its report on 15th December, 1928. It was not unanimous in its findings, and the opinions and recommendations of the members were embodied in two separate reports, which dealt exhaustively with the constitutional aspects, existing systems, industrial legislation, the basic wage, standard of living, regulation of wages, working conditions and cognate matters.

The findings and recommendations in the *majority* and *minority* reports were given in Labour Report No. 19.

At the conference of Commonwealth and State Ministers held at Canberra in May, 1929, the Prime Minister stated that the Commonwealth Government was not prepared to adopt a scheme financed entirely from the proceeds of taxation, as had been recommended in the minority report. The Commonwealth Government agreed with the majority of the Commission that child endowment could not be separated from the control of the basic wage—a power which the Commonwealth did not possess and which the States were not prepared to relinquish. The Government, therefore, did not propose to establish any system of child endowment. It was generally agreed that any scheme which would increase the charges upon industry would be unwise at that particular time. The matter of child endowment was accordingly left to be dealt with as the State Governments should think proper.

Early in 1941, the Commonwealth Government announced its intention to introduce a scheme of child endowment throughout Australia. The necessary legislation* was introduced into Parliament on 27th March, and the passage through all stages was completed on 3rd April, 1941. The scheme came into operation from 1st July, 1941. As amended to date (November, 1952) its main features are as follows :—

Any person who is a resident of Australia and has the custody, care and control of one or more children under the age of 16 years, or an approved institution of which children are inmates shall be qualified to receive an endowment in respect of each child.

From 20th June, 1950, the rates of endowment have been—

(*a*) where the endowee has one child only, 5s. per week ;
(*b*) where the endowee has two or more children—in respect of the elder or eldest child, 5s. per week and in respect of each other child, 10s. per week :
(*c*) in the case of the endowee being an approved institution the rate is 10s. per week for each child inmate.

There are provisions to cover cases of families divided by reason of divorce, separation, death of a parent or other circumstances. In such cases payment may be made to the father, mother or other person.

* Act No. 8 1941 (Child Endowment Act) as amended by No. 5, 1942 and Nos. 10 and 41, 1945 (now incorporated in Part VI. of the Social Services Consolidation Act 1947–1952), Act No. 2, 1941 (Pay-roll Tax Assessment Act) ; and Act No. 3, 1941 (Pay-roll Tax Act).

A child born during the mother's temporary absence from Australia is deemed to have been born here.

There is a twelve months residential requirement for claimants and children who were not born in Australia, but this is waived if the claimant and the child are likely to remain permanently in Australia.

Endowment will be paid for the children of members of the Naval, Military or Air Forces of the United Kingdom who are serving with the Australian Forces from the time of their arrival in Australia.

From 1st July, 1941, when the scheme was introduced the rate of endowment was 5s. per week for each child in excess of one in a family and for each child under 16 years in an approved institution, the rate being increased to 7s. 6d. a week from 25th June, 1945, and to 10s. per week from 9th November, 1948. There is no means test.

Endowment in respect of the first child under 16 years in a family was first provided for by an amendment of the legislation in June, 1950.

Consequent upon the operation of the Commonwealth Child Endowment Scheme, appropriate steps were taken for the termination of existing schemes operating in New South Wales and the Commonwealth Public Service. The New South Wales system of child endowment was in operation from July, 1927 to July, 1941, and the Commonwealth Public Service system operated from November, 1920, until July, 1941. Details of these schemes appeared in earlier issues of the Labour Report (*see* No. 36, page 103).

A summary of the operations of this scheme during the five years 1947-48 to 1951-52 is given below :—

Child Endowment : Australia, 1947-48 to 1951-52.

Year.	Endowed Families at 30th June.		Approved Institutions.		Total Number of Endowed Children.
	Number of Families.	Number of Endowed Children.	Number of Institutions.	Number of Endowed Children.	
1947-48 ..	586,415	1,029,777	366	20,580	1,050,357
1948-49 ..	620,819	1,083,994	369	21,305	1,105,299
1949-50 ..	662,949	1,813,925	375	22,397	1,836,322
1950-51 ..	1,150,847	2,365,177	370	23,753	2,388,930
1951-52 ..	1,205,421	2,493,246	379	24,623	2,517,869

Year.	Amount Paid to Endowees and Approved Institutions.	Annual Liability for Endowment on 30th June.	Average Annual Rate of Endowment per Endowed Family on 30th June.	Average Number of Endowed Children per Endowed Family on 30th June.	Number of Endowed Children in each 10,000 of Population.
	£	£	£		
1947-48 ..	19,425,518	20,481,961	34.243	1.757	1,335
1948-49 ..	24,323,413	28,737,774	45.398	1.746	1,370
1949-50 ..	30,337,363	39,126,035	58.139	2.736	2,216
1950-51 ..	43,584,614	47,151,169	40.434	2.055	2,805
1951-52 ..	46,625,052	49,794,121	40.777	2.068	2,883

CHAPTER IV.—EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT.

§ 1. Employment.

1. **General.**—Data on which this section is based are divided into three main categories: (*a*) Censuses, 1933 and 1947, and quasi-Censuses; (*b*) monthly returns for Pay-roll Tax purposes, supplemented by regular collections of Government employment; and (*c*) reports from Trade Union secretaries.

The first quasi-Census was the National Register, July, 1939. It covered males aged 18–64 years and, supplemented by other data, provided estimates for July, 1939. The Civilian Register, June, 1943, and Occupation Survey, June, 1945, covered civilians aged 14 years and over and were supplemented by records of the Defence Forces.

Pay-roll Tax returns first became available in July, 1941.

2. **Total Occupied Persons.**—(i) *Australia.*—The estimates in the table below are divided into three categories (*a*) Defence Forces; (*b*) all persons fully occupied as employers, or self-employed in businesses or on farms; and (*c*) wage or salary earners fully employed, or occupied as casual, part-time, intermittent or seasonal wage earners. Unemployed wage earners are excluded.

Male unpaid "helpers" in rural industry, who numbered about 35,000 in June, 1933, and about 21,000 in June, 1947, have been included with employers and self-employed persons, as it is considered that the majority of these are sons or other close relatives of farmers working in an unofficial partnership or as learners with the farm owner. Unpaid "helpers" in other industries, who numbered about 6,000 males and 4,000 females in June, 1933, have been included with wage and salary earners. Unpaid female "helpers" on farms are very numerous, some 22,000 being shown on Agricultural and Pastoral Statistics returns for March, 1947. Generally they are occupied mainly in home duties. All women occupied in unpaid home duties have been excluded from the category of occupied persons.

Statistics of net enlistments in the Defence Forces shown in the table below represent total enlistments for full-time duty less deaths and discharges. Prior to December, 1941, men in certain age-groups were called up for short training courses but these men are excluded from the figures. In July, 1941, the number of such men was approximately 50,000.

Total Occupied Persons: Australia, 1933 to 1947.

('000.)

Year and Month.	Defence Forces (Net Enlistments). (*a*)	Employers and Self-employed Persons.			Wage and Salary Earners.			Total Occupied Civilians.	Total Occupied Persons including Forces. (*a*)
		Rural Industry.	Other Industries.	Total.	Rural Industry.	Other Industries.	Total.		
				MALES.					
1933—June..	5.8	292.4	248.3	540.7	200.0	992.0	1192.0	1732.7	1738.5
1939—July..	12.9	300.0	299.0	599.0	202.0	1293.1	1495.1	2094.1	2107.0
1941—July..	282.8*b*	284.0	208.0	492.0	188.0	1363.4	1551.4	2043.4	2326.2
1943—June..	685.0	262.0	150.0	412.0	120.9	1273.2	1394.1	1806.1	2491.1
1945—June(*c*)	603.5	287.5	187.1	474.6	130.2	1294.2	1424.4	1899.0	2502.5
1947—June..	53.2	278.9	286.8	565.7	148.2	*d*1649.4	*d*1797.6	*d*2363.3	*d*2416.5

See footnotes on following page.

Total Occupied Persons : Australia, 1933 to 1947—*continued.*

('000.)

Year and Month	Defence Forces (Net Enlistments). (a)	Employers and Self-employed Persons.			Wage and Salary Earners.			Total Occupied Civilians.	Total Occupied Persons including Forces. (a)
		Rural Industry.	Other Industries.	Total.	Rural Industry.	Other Industries.	Total.		
FEMALES.									
						(e)			
1933—June..	..	15.1	56.2	71.3	4.4	447.5	451.9	523.2	523.2
1939—July..	..	16.0	62.0	78.0	4.0	561.6	565.6	643.6	643.6
1941—July..	1.8	14.0	56.8	70.8	6.0	656.2	662.2	733.0	734.8
1943—June..	44.0	11.7	34.4	46.1	28.1	682.1	710.2	756.3	800.3
1945—June(c)	45.4	17.0	43.1	60.1	23.0	667.1	690.1	750.2	795.6
1947—June..	0.8	13.8	55.8	69.6	8.1	*d*659.9	*d*668.0	*d*737.6	*d*738.4
PERSONS.									
1933—June..	5.8	307.5	304.5	612.0	204.4	1439.5	1643.9	2255.9	2261.7
1939—July..	12.9	316.0	361.0	677.0	206.0	1854.7	2060.7	2737.7	2750.6
1941—July..	284.6*b*	298.0	264.8	562.8	194.0	2019.6	2213.6	2776.4	3061.0
1943—June..	729.0	273.7	184.4	458.1	149.0	1955.3	2104.3	2562.4	3291.4
1945—June(c)	648.9	304.5	230.2	534.7	153.2	1961.3	2114.5	2649.2	3298.1
1947—June..	54.0	292.7	342.6	635.3	156.3	*d*2309.3	*d*2465.6	*d*3100.9	*d*3154.9

(*a*) Includes those serving outside Australia. (*b*) Excludes approximately 50,000 men called up for short training courses. (*c*) 1st June, 1945 (Occupation Survey). (*d*) Preliminary estimate, subject to revision. (*e*) Includes females, in thousands, in private domestic service as follows :—106.7 in June, 1933 ; 124.5 in July, 1939 ; 100.0 in July, 1941 ; 41.5 in June, 1943 ; 47.6 in June, 1945 ; 40.3 in June, 1947.

The numbers of persons in the Defence Forces in June, 1947, shown in the foregoing table include those serving outside Australia who were omitted from the Census taken in that month. The numbers of employers and self-employed persons and wage and salary earners in rural industry are in accordance with the final results of the Census. Estimates, based on Pay-roll Tax returns, &c., are shown in the table above for wage and salary earners employed in industries other than rural. The estimate of 659,900 female wage and salary earners employed in non-rural industries includes 40,300 private domestics (the figure from the June, 1947, Census). The remaining 619,600 females in the estimate include females working part-time. The 1947 Census figure for the same industries (i.e. excluding rural and private domestic) was 579,200. Persons working regularly but for considerably less than normal working hours were instructed on the Census Schedule to exclude themselves from the work force, unless their earnings from such work formed their principal means of livelihood.

From June, 1933, to July, 1939, the number of occupied persons of both sexes increased by 488,900, due to the increase of 223,700 in the number of persons available and offering for gainful occupation and to the decrease of 265,200 in the number unemployed from 563,200 to 298,000.

During the war years from July, 1939, to June, 1943, the total labour force increased by 268,600. The Defence Forces absorbed 716,000 drawn from the following sources :—

(*a*) Net decrease in number of occupied civilians—175,000 ;
(*b*) Decrease in unemployment—272,000 ;
(*c*) Net expansion of total labour force—269,000.

Based on the pre-war trends, it was estimated that item (*c*) above included about 180,000 persons whose entry into the labour force could be attributed solely to war-time conditions.

The total labour force expanded by 37,000 between June, 1943 and June, 1945, the numbers of males and females both increasing. During 1945–46 and 1946–47, as demobilization of the Defence Forces progressed, there was

a rapid increase in the number of occupied civilians, but the effective labour force is estimated to have decreased by 105,200 (males 51,800; females, 53,400). The decrease was mainly the result of two factors—firstly, retirement of some persons who entered the Defence Forces or civilian employment solely on account of war conditions and who normally would not have sought gainful employment; secondly, entry into full-time training courses of ex-Service personnel.

From July, 1939, to June, 1943, persons occupied in rural industry declined from 522,000 to 422,700 and recovered to about 449,000 in June, 1947.

The numbers occupied in industries other than rural were 2,215,700 in July, 1939; 2,139,700 in June, 1943; 2,191,500 in June, 1945; and 2,651,900 in June, 1947. Employers and self-employed persons in these industries decreased from 361,000 in July, 1939, to 184,400 in June, 1943, partly as a result of enlistments in the Defence Forces but chiefly as a result of changing to wage or salary earning. By June, 1947, employers and self-employed persons had increased to 342,600.

(ii) *States.*—The following table shows total occupied males and females in each State in July, 1939, and June, 1947, divided into Defence Forces, Employers and Self-employed Persons and Wage and Salary Earners.

Total Occupied Persons—States—July, 1939 and June, 1947.

('000.)

State.	Defence Forces (Net Enlistments). (*a*)		Employers and Self-employed Persons.		Wage and Salary Earners.		Total Occupied Persons including Forces.	
	July, 1939.	June, 1947.	July, 1939.	June, 1947.	July, 1939.	June, 1947. (*b*)	July, 1939.	June, 1947. (*b*)
MALES.								
New South Wales ..	4.9	23.1	216.2	197.5	596.2	723.6	817.3	944.2
Victoria	4.4	15.9	162.9	158 1	399.5	480.9	566.8	654.9
Queensland	1.0	5.9	95.1	96.9	218.6	255.4	314.7	358.2
South Australia ..	1.1	2.6	54.6	51.8	127.7	154.4	183.4	208.8
Western Australia ..	1.0	3.4	47.4	39.8	99.7	115.6	148.1	158.8
Tasmania	0.5	0.8	21.5	20.1	46.9	58.1	68.9	79.0
FEMALES.								
New South Wales ..	..	0.3	28.4	25.4	220.8	268.8	249.2	294.5
Victoria	..	0.4	25.5	22.4	175.3	203.4	200.8	226.2
Queensland	..	0.1	11.1	10.2	71.2	83.2	82.3	93.5
South Australia ..	..	..	6.0	5.2	47.4	52.9	53.4	58.1
Western Australia ..	..	..	4.8	4.3	33.2	38.4	38.0	42.7
Tasmania	..	..	2.2	1.9	16.3	19.0	18.5	20.9
PERSONS.								
New South Wales ..	4.9	23.4	244.6	222.9	817.0	992.4	1066.5	1,238.7
Victoria	4.4	16.3	188.4	180.5	574.8	684.3	767.6	881.1
Queensland	1.0	6.0	106.2	107.1	289.8	338.6	397.0	451.7
South Australia ..	1.1	2.6	60.6	57.0	175.1	207.3	236.8	266.9
Western Australia ..	1.0	3.4	52.2	44.1	132.9	154.0	186.1	201.5
Tasmania	0.5	0.8	23.7	22.0	63.2	77.1	87.4	99.9

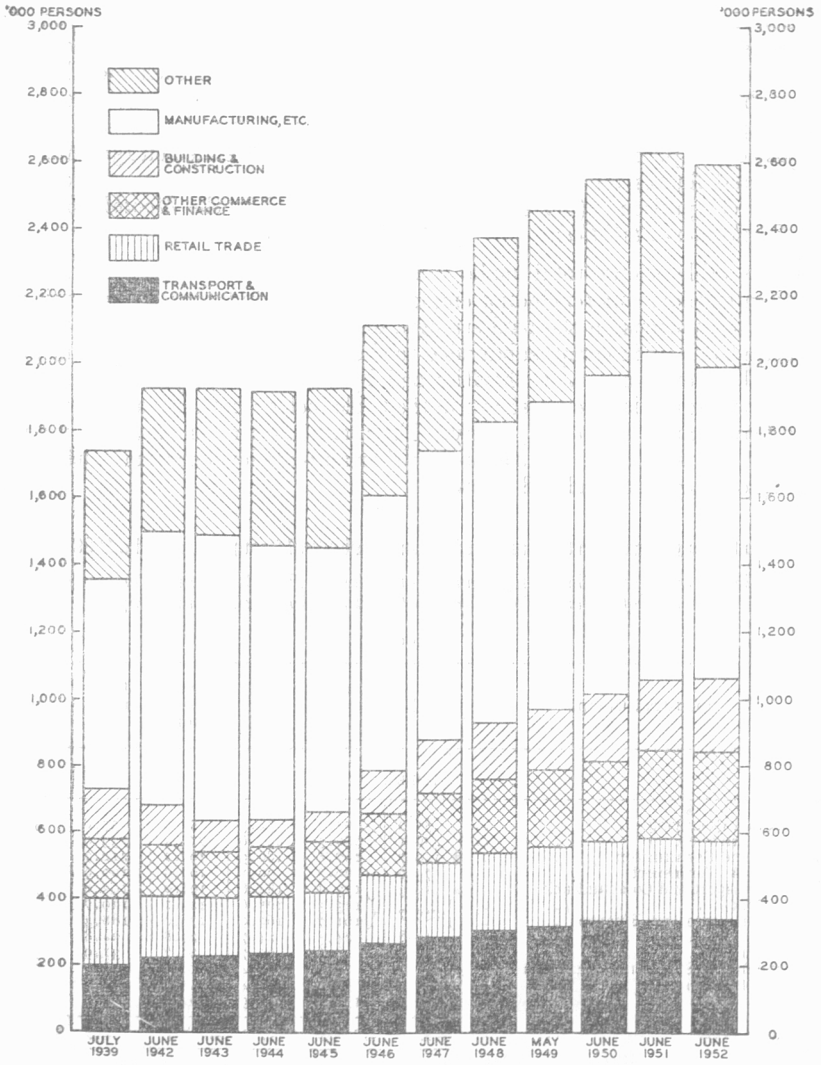
(*a*) Includes those serving outside Australia. (*b*) Preliminary figures subject to revision.

Between July, 1939, and June, 1947, the occupied population of Australia (including Defence Forces but excluding unemployed, pensioners, retired, persons of independent means and dependants) increased by approximately 14.7 per cent. The proportionate increase in each State was as follows: New South Wales, 16.1; Victoria, 14.8; Queensland, 13.8; South Australia, 12.7; Western Australia, 8.3; Tasmania, 14.3.

WAGE AND SALARY EARNERS IN CIVILIAN EMPLOYMENT: AUSTRALIA, 1939 TO 1952

BY MAIN INDUSTRIAL GROUPS

(EXCLUDING RURAL AND PRIVATE DOMESTIC WORKERS)



(*See* para. 3, page 114).

3. **Wage and Salary Earners in Civilian Employment.**—(i) *Australia: Industrial Groups.*—Estimates are made monthly of wage and salary earners in employment (excluding employees in rural industry and female domestics in private homes), based on Pay-roll Tax returns and returns of Government employment. Pay-roll returns cover only a small proportion of wage earners on rural holdings, and practically no private domestic servants. It is not possible to obtain actual numbers of farm employees and private domestic servants except when a Census or quasi-Census such as the Occupation Survey (1st June, 1945) is taken, but estimates have been made from time to time using available data. The next table shows the trend in that section of wage and salary earning employment which it is possible to estimate monthly. Figures given as at July, 1939 are based on the National Register. From July, 1941 (commencement of Pay-roll Tax returns), the estimates are available for each month, and the table shows the level in June, 1948, in May, 1949, and in June, 1950, 1951 and 1952. Figures for June, 1949, were affected by the Australia-wide black coal dispute which commenced on 27th June, and ended on 15th August, 1949, and figures for May have therefore been substituted for purposes of annual comparison. (Current figures are published in the *Monthly Bulletin of Employment Statistics*).

The table shows total male and female wage and salary earners in civilian employment (excluding employees in rural industry, female private domestics, persons on the paid strength of the Defence Forces and National Service Trainees in camp) subdivided to show the extent of employment provided by Governmental authorities and by private employers respectively. Principal industrial groups shown in the table include both private employees and Government employees, if any. The manufacturing employment figures in this table are not comparable as to either absolute level or trend with those shown on pages 117 and 118 below.

Wage and Salary Earners in Civilian Employment, Industrial Groups: Australia, 1939 to 1952.

(*Excluding Rural Wage Earners, Female Domestics in Private Homes, Persons on Paid Strength of Defence Forces and National Service Trainees in Camp.*)

('000.)

Industrial Group.	July, 1939.	June, 1948. (*a*)	May, 1949. (*a*)(*b*)	June, 1950. (*a*)	June, 1951. (*a*)	June, 1952. (*a*)
			MALES.			
Mining and Quarrying	52.2	52.7	52.3	53.9	55.8	58.8
Manufacturing, etc.(*c*)	456.1	680.5	692.6	716.4	733.0	721.4
Building and Construction	149.7	167.8	180.9	197.2	212.7	214.0
Rail and Air Transport	73.0	96.5	99.1	100.9	100.9	106.9
Other Transport and Communication	112.9	173.4	182.6	191.9	193.8	193.0
Retail Trade	259.7	123.3	125.6	127.1	129.7	124.8
Other Commerce and Finance		161.7	169.9	178.0	188.4	191.2
Health	17.8	24.5	24.7	24.8	24.8	25.3
Education	22.1	28.6	29.7	30.7	31.9	33.2
Entertainment, Sport and Recreation	17.4	17.7	18.4	18.0	18.0	18.1
Personal Services	37.0	52.9	54.4	55.9	54.6	53.2
Other	95.2	151.3	156.9	163.9	167.9	168.2
Total	1,293.1	1,730.9	1,787.1	1,858.7	1,911.5	1,908.1
Governmental (*d*)	349.8	494.4	518.9	553.5	570.4	577.4
Private Employers	943.3	1,236.5	1,268.2	1,305.2	1,341.1	1,330.7
Total	1,293.1	1,730.9	1,787.1	1,858.7	1,911.5	1,908.1

See footnotes on following page.

Wage and Salary Earners in Civilian Employment, Industrial Groups : Australia, 1939 to 1952—*continued.*

(Excluding Rural Wage Earners, Female Domestics in Private Homes, Persons on Paid Strength of Defence Forces and National Service Trainees in Camp.)

('000.)

Industrial Group.	July, 1939.	June, 1948. (*a*)	May, 1949. (*a*)(*b*)	June, 1950. (*a*)	June, 1951. (*a*)	June, 1952. (*a*)
FEMALES.						
Mining and Quarrying	0.3	0.6	0.7	0.7	0.8	0.9
Manufacturing, etc.(*c*)	169.0	213.9	221.9	230.4	241.1	206.3
Building and Construction	1.2	2.9	3.1	3.3	3.8	4.2
Rail and Air Transport	2.5	7.8	8.0	8.0	8.2	8.6
Other Transport and Communication	10.1	27.2	29.0	30.8	31.9	30.9
Retail Trade	114.9	109.3	111.1	113.3	119.1	112.6
Other Commerce and Finance		56.9	59.8	64.8	71.3	72.9
Health	34.0	59.6	62.0	65.0	67.4	68.7
Education	32.0	37.1	37.7	39.1	39.7	41.8
Entertainment, Sport and Recreation	4.0	8.4	8.8	8.4	8.7	8.6
Personal Services	43.0	70.4	71.3	72.8	72.1	68.9
Other	26.1	49.9	50.7	51.6	54.7	55.0
Total	437.1	644.0	664.1	688.2	718.8	679.4
Governmental (*d*)	55.2	94.9	99.2	107.6	113.8	115.2
Private Employers	381.9	549.1	564.9	580.6	605.0	564.2
Total	437.1	644.0	664.1	688.2	718.8	679.4
PERSONS.						
Mining and Quarrying	52.5	53.3	53.0	54.6	56.6	59.7
Manufacturing, etc.(*c*)	625.1	894.4	914.5	946.8	974.1	927.7
Building and Construction	150.9	170.7	184.0	200.5	216.5	218.2
Rail and Air Transport	75.5	104.3	107.1	108.9	109.1	115.5
Other Transport and Communication	123.0	200.6	211.6	222.7	225.7	223.9
Retail Trade	374.6	232.6	236.7	240.4	248.8	237.4
Other Commerce and Finance		218.6	229.7	242.8	259.7	264.1
Health	51.8	84.1	86.7	89.8	92.2	94.0
Education	54.1	65.7	67.4	69.8	71.6	75.0
Entertainment, Sport and Recreation	21.4	26.1	27.2	26.4	26.7	26.7
Personal Services	80.0	123.3	125.7	128.7	126.7	122.1
Other	121.3	201.2	207.6	215.5	222.6	223.2
Total	1,730.2	2,374.9	2,451.2	2,546.9	2,630.3	2,587.5
Governmental(*d*)	405.0	589.3	618.1	661.1	684.2	692.6
Private Employers	1,325.2	1,785.6	1,833.1	1,885.8	1,946.1	1,894.9
Total	1,730.2	2,374.9	2,451.2	2,546.9	2,630.3	2,587.5

(*a*) Subject to revision. (*b*) Figures for May, 1949, have been used for purposes of annual comparison because of the effects of the coal dispute in June, 1949. (*c*) Estimates (subject to revision) based on Pay-roll Tax returns, etc., of employees predominantly engaged in secondary production. The figures include a considerable number of employees outside the scope of the factory employment figures as defined and published on pages 117 and 118. (*d*) Includes employees of Commonwealth, State and Local Government Authorities.

During the year ended June, 1952, the total decrease in numbers of wage and salary earners in employment (excluding rural wage earners, female domestics in private homes and Defence Forces) was 42,800 (males 3,400 ; females 39,400). Employees of public authorities increased by 8,400, but those employed by private employers decreased by 51,200.

During this period employment decreased in the following industrial groups :—Manufacturing, &c., 46,400 ; Retail Trade, 11,400 and Personal Services, 4,600. The most important increases were :—Transport and Communication, 4,600 ; Other Commerce and Finance, 4,400 ; and Education, 3,400.

(ii) *States.*—Statistics of total employment of wage and salary earners (excluding rural and female private domestic employment and Defence Forces) since 1933 are shown for each State in the next table.

Wage and Salary Earners in Civilian Employment : States, 1933 to 1952.

(Excluding Rural Wage Earners, Female Domestics in Private Homes, Persons on Paid Strength of Defence Forces and National Service Trainees in Camp.)

('000.)

Year and Month.	New South Wales	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australia. (a)
MALES.							
1933—June ..	380.6	288.6	139.8	80.5	70.1	29.0	992.0
1939—July ..	529.9	357.5	172.8	106.7	82.9	37.4	1293.1
1941—November	556.8	405.1	167.9	121.9	83.2	39.4	1381.4
1947—June(b) ..	671.8	452.6	220.2	140.9	103.9	51.1	1649.4
1948—June(b) ..	702.3	473.3	232.6	149.0	109.2	54.5	1730.9
1949—May(b)(c)	721.4	489.3	239.8	155.0	112.8	57.4	1787.1
1950—June(b) ..	740.8	510.7	250.4	165.7	120.5	58.4	1858.7
1951—June(b) ..	758.2	525.8	259.3	170.0	125.3	60.2	1911.5
1952—June(b) ..	754.4	524.4	258.1	171.5	126.0	61.0	1908.1
FEMALES.							
1933—June ..	125.8	118.2	40.5	26.0	20.6	9.1	340.8
1939—July ..	168.0	142.9	53.2	34.0	26.2	11.6	437.1
1941—November	229.3	192.8	62.6	45.6	32.6	15.2	579.8
1947—June(b) ..	252.1	190.5	74.5	48.0	35.6	16.9	619.6
1948—June(b) ..	261.9	196.7	77.9	50.1	37.0	18.0	644.0
1949—May(b)(c)	269.9	202.5	80.1	52.2	37.8	18.8	664.1
1950—June(b) ..	278.5	210.0	83.1	54.3	39.9	19.4	688.2
1951—June(b) ..	290.9	219.6	86.1	57.0	41.6	20.3	718.8
1952—June(b) ..	270.5	206.6	83.8	54.9	40.5	19.8	679.4
PERSONS.							
1933—June ..	506.4	406.8	180.3	106.5	90.7	38.1	1332.8
1939—July ..	697.9	500.4	226.0	140.7	109.1	49.0	1730.2
1941—November	786.1	597.9	230.5	167.5	115.8	54.6	1961.2
1947—June(b) ..	923.9	643.1	294.7	188.9	139.5	68.0	2269.0
1948—June(b) ..	964.2	670.0	310.5	199.1	146.2	72.5	2374.9
1949—May(b)(c)	991.3	691.8	319.9	207.2	150.6	76.2	2451.2
1950—June(b) ..	1019.3	720.7	333.5	220.0	160.4	77.8	2546.9
1951—June(b) ..	1049.1	745.4	345.4	227.0	166.9	80.5	2630.3
1952—June(b) ..	1024.9	731.0	341.9	226.4	166.5	80.8	2587.5

(a) Includes Australian Capital Territory and Northern Territory. (b) Subject to revision. (c) *See* note (b) to table on page 115.

In all States except Queensland employment of male wage and salary earners in civilian work, excluding rural, was higher in November, 1941, than at the outbreak of war. The male employment level then commenced to decrease and continued to do so in most States until the second quarter of 1943–44. In Queensland, however, the downward movement was very slight. There was then a general, though slight, upward trend (except in South Australia) until the end of the war. Demobilization of the Defence Forces resulted in a rapid increase in male employment in all States in 1945–46 and 1946–47. Male employment in each State continued to increase during each of the next four years, but at a lower rate. The highest employment on record was reached in March, 1952, but the numbers employed fell continuously during the last three months of 1951–52.

After the outbreak of war, female wage and salary earners (excluding rural workers and domestics in private homes) increased rapidly in all States. The peak level during the war (646,000) was reached in December, 1943. From June to December, 1943, there was only a slight total increase. Victoria and South Australia had already passed their respective peaks of female employment. In January, 1946, female employment reached its lowest level (588,400) since January, 1942, having declined in all States after the end of the war, particularly in Victoria and South Australia. From January, 1946, female employment increased in all States and in May, 1949, had passed the war-time peak. The post-war peak was reached in November, 1951, and was followed by a steady fall until June, 1952.

(iii) *Factories.*—In the following table is shown the mid-year number of employees in the main factory classes in each of the years 1949 to 1952 compared with 1939. The figures refer to the estimated employment in factories as defined for the purposes of the annual production census, results of which are published annually in the *Secondary Industries Bulletin.* In this connexion a factory is defined as an industrial establishment in which four or more hands are employed, or in which power, other than hand, is used. The employees covered are those engaged in manufacturing activities and exclude working proprietors and those engaged in selling and distribution, etc.

Employment in Factories according to Main Classes : Australia, June, 1939 to 1952.

('000.)

Class of Factory.	No. of Employees in June—				
	1939.	1948.	1949.	1950.	1951.
MALES.					
Treatment of Non-metalliferous Mine and Quarry Products	9.8	13.4	14.6	16.1	17.1
Bricks, Pottery, Glass	14.3	16.5	17.4	18.3	18.9
Chemicals, Oils, Paints, etc.	14.6	24.4	25.3	26.6	27.9
Metals, Machines, Vehicles, etc.	161.6	289.1	295.7	316.3	330.3
Jewellery, Watches, etc.	2.8	4.6	4.9	5.0	4.6
Textiles (including knitted goods)	18.3	29.8	29.5	29.7	30.6
Skins and Leather	8.0	11.7	11.5	12.2	11.1
Clothing (including shoes)	19.1	28.2	29.5	29.4	30.3
Food, Drink and Tobacco	57.6	82.4	85.5	85.4	87.9
Sawmilling and Woodworking	27.5	42.3	45.5	47.6	50.9
Cabinet Making, Furniture, etc.	11.2	14.9	15.6	16.8	18.0
Paper, Printing, etc.	26.7	34.1	36.3	38.0	39.1
Rubber	4.9	9.0	9.5	10.2	10.7
Musical Instruments and Miscellaneous Manufactures	5.4	12.3	12.6	12.7	13.2
Heat, Light and Power	9.2	12.3	13.0	13.4	14.1
Total	391.0	625.0	646.4	677.7	704.7
FEMALES.					
Treatment of Non-metalliferous Mine and Quarry Products	0.2	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.7
Bricks, Pottery, Glass	0.8	1.2	1.3	1.5	1.6
Chemicals, Oils, Paints, etc.	5.7	7.8	7.9	8.6	9.2
Metals, Machines, Vehicles, etc.	9.4	28.5	30.2	34.9	39.1
Jewellery, Watches, etc.	0.5	0.9	1.0	1.1	1.2
Textiles (including knitted goods)	27.2	32.7	35.0	36.7	38.8
Skins and Leather	2.5	3.5	3.6	4.0	3.7
Clothing (including shoes)	61.3	79.5	83.2	84.0	87.7
Food, Drink and Tobacco	20.9	27.6	29.2	30.4	31.0
Sawmilling and Woodworking	0.9	1.8	2.0	2.1	2.4
Cabinet Making, Furniture, etc.	2.7	2.6	2.9	3.2	3.5
Paper, Printing, etc.	11.6	12.9	13.8	14.3	15.3
Rubber	2.3	2.3	2.6	2.8	3.0
Musical Instruments and Miscellaneous Manufactures	2.4	6.1	6.3	6.9	7.0
Heat, Light and Power	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Total	148.6	208.0	219.6	231.2	244.3

Employment in Factories according to Main Classes : Australia, June, 1939 to 1952—*continued.*

('000.)

Class of Factory.	No. of Employees in June—				
	1939.	1948.	1949.	1950.	1951.
PERSONS.					
Treatment of Non-metalliferous Mine and Quarry Products	10.0	13.9	15.1	16.7	17.8
Bricks, Pottery, Glass	15.1	17.7	18.7	19.8	20.5
Chemicals, Oils, Paints, etc.	20.3	32.2	33.2	35.2	37.1
Metals, Machines, Vehicles, etc.	171.0	317.6	325.9	351.2	369.4
Jewellery, Watches, etc.	3.3	5.5	5.9	6.1	5.8
Textiles (including knitted goods)	45.5	62.5	64.5	66.4	69.4
Skins and Leather	10.5	15.2	15.1	16.2	14.8
Clothing (including shoes)	80.4	107.7	112.7	113.4	118.0
Food, Drink and Tobacco	78.5	110.0	114.7	115.8	118.9
Sawmilling and Woodworking	28.4	44.1	47.5	49.7	53.3
Cabinet Making, Furniture, etc.	13.9	17.5	18.5	20.0	21.5
Paper, Printing, etc.	38.3	47.0	50.1	52.3	54.4
Rubber	7.2	11.3	12.1	13.0	13.7
Musical Instruments and Miscellaneous Manufactures	7.8	18.4	18.9	19.6	20.2
Heat, Light and Power	9.4	12.4	13.1	13.5	14.2
Total	539.6	833.0	866.0	908.9	949.0

§ 2. Unemployment.

1. **Total Persons Unemployed.**—The total number of persons unemployed has been recorded only at the dates of the various Censuses. The following table sets out the number of unemployed at the Censuses of 1911, 1921, 1933 and 1947, the National Register, 1939, and the Occupation Survey, 1945. The percentage which the unemployed bore at each date to all wage and salary earners, comprising those estimated to be in employment and those unemployed, is also shown.

Unemployment (All Causes): Australia.

Year and Month.	Wage and Salary Earners Unemployed.			Proportion of Wage and Salary Earners Unemployed.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
	'000.	'000.	'000.	%	%	%
1911—April (Census)	48.0	8.3	56.3	4.3	2.7	4.0
1921—April "	139.4	21.5	160.9	10.7	5.7	9.6
1933—June (*a*) "	460.2	103.1	563.3	27.9	19.1	25.8
1939—July (*b*)	264.0	34.0	298.0	15.0	5.7	12.6
1945—June (*c*)	39.9	16.2	56.1	2.7	2.3	2.6
1947—June (Census) (*d*)	66.6	16.9	83.5	3.6	2.5	3.3

(*a*) The figures shown for 1933 are in excess of those actually recorded at the Census, an allowance having been made for a number of youths and girls who would normally have been wage and salary earners, but who, on account of the economic depression, having never been employed, were not classed as wage and salary earners. (*b*) Derived from the National Register, 1939. (*c*) Derived from the Occupation Survey, 1945. (*d*) Persons in the work force who were not at work at the time of the Census.

The estimates and percentages of unemployment given above for periods subsequent to the Census of 1933 should be interpreted in conjunction with the notes below.

The estimates for 1939 were based on the National Register, which covered males aged 18–64 years, and data available from other sources. The proportion of wage earners unemployed in July, 1939, immediately prior to the 1939–45 War, was estimated at approximately 12½ per cent. In July, 1941, it was about 4 per cent. and by June, 1943, under conditions of intensive mobilization of manpower for war purposes involuntary unemployment was practically nil. Owing to the use on the Occupation Survey (1945) card of the definition "a person normally working for wages but without a job on 1st June", it appears that the 1945 figures exclude some persons who were temporarily absent from their jobs at the date of the survey. Of the numbers at the 1947 Census shown above, 25.6 per cent. were not at work owing to sickness or accident and 26.6 per cent. stated that they were resting. Of the latter, approximately half said they expected to resume their former jobs. The numbers in need of financial relief on account of unemployment in June, 1947, were quite small. Details of unemployment benefits are shown in § 5.

2. **Unemployment in Reporting Trade Unions.**—(i) *General.*—The collection by this Bureau of information relating to unemployment amongst trade unionists was initiated in 1912, when special inquiries were forwarded to officials of trade unions throughout Australia for particulars for that year, and for information relating to previous years, as far back as 1891.

Since 1913, information concerning the extent of unemployment of trade unionists has been collected at quarterly periods, and the results of the investigations have been published in the *Official Year Book*, *Quarterly Summary of Australian Statistics*, *Monthly Review of Business Statistics*, and the Labour Report. The percentages of unemployment derived from Trade Union returns are an indication of the trend of unemployment amongst trade unionists as estimated or recorded by the secretaries of trade unions which supply returns. The membership of the reporting unions consists predominantly of males, and represents at present about 55 per cent. of the total trade union membership and between 25 and 30 per cent. of all wage and salary earners. Returns are not collected from unions whose members are predominantly in permanent employment (Governmental, etc.) or casual employment (wharf labourers, etc.). Very few of the unions pay unemployment benefit, but the majority of the larger organizations have permanent secretaries and organizers who are closely in touch with the members and with the state of trade within their particular industries. In some cases unemployment registers are kept, and provision is made in the rules for payment of reduced subscriptions by members out of work.

Seasonal fluctuations in unemployment have been recorded by collecting returns quarterly since 1st January, 1913. The quarterly figures show the number of persons who were out of work for three days or more during a specified week in each quarter: they include persons out of work through sickness but exclude persons out of work through strikes and lock-outs except those outside the industry who are indirectly affected. The yearly figures quoted (including percentages) represent the average of the four quarters.

(ii) *Australia, 1891 to* June Quarter, 1952.—The following table gives particulars for Australia for the years 1891 to 1952 (June Quarter) in respect of:—

(*a*) The number of unions for which returns as to unemployment are available; (*b*) The number of members of such unions; (*c*) The number of members unemployed; and (*d*) The percentage of members unemployed on total number of members.

Unemployment in Reporting Trade Unions: Australia.

Period.	Unions.	Number of Members.	Members Unemployed.	
			Number.	Proportion of Membership.
				%
1891 (end of year) ..	25	6,445	599	9.3
1896 ,, ,, ..	25	4,227	457	10.8
1901 ,, ,, ..	39	8,710	574	6.6
1906 ,, ,, ..	47	11,299	753	6.7
1911 ,, ,, ..	160	67,961	3,171	4.7
1916 (average for year) ..	473	290,075	16,783	5.8
1921 ,, ,, ..	449	361,744	40,549	11.2
1926 ,, ,, ..	374	415,397	29,326	7.1
1931 ,, ,, ..	397	430,004	117,866	27.4
1932 ,, ,, ..	395	415,434	120,454	29.0 (*a*)
1936 ,, ,, ..	392	441,311	53,992	12.2
1939 ,, ,, ..	396	476,918	45,967	9.7
1940 ,, ,, ..	394	491,352	39,116	8.0
1941 ,, ,, ..	395	536,660	20,013	3.7
1942 ,, ,, ..	394	613,534	9,754	1.6
1943 ,, ,, ..	390	678,713	7,545	1.1
1944 ,, ,, ..	389	681,684	8,073	1.2
1945 ,, ,, ..	388	673,750	7,864	1.2
1946 ,, ,, ..	383	672,121	9,125	1.4
1947 ,, ,, ..	381	718,096	8,432	1.2
1948 ,, ,, ..	380	761,104	6,533	0.9
1949 ,, ,, ..	377	790,630	15,342(*b*)	2.0 (*b*)
1950 ,, ,, ..	375	827,106	6,654	0.8
1951 ,, ,, ..	374	860,525	5,776	0.7
1948 March Quarter ..	381	744,901	6,484	0.9
June ,, ..	381	752,222	6,549	0.9
September ,, ..	380	769,959	6,813	0.9
December ,, ..	380	777,332	6,287	0.8
1949 March ,, ..	380	785,468	5,898	0.8
June ,, ..	380	792,428	6,337	0.8
September ,, ..	373	776,195	43,030(*b*)	5.5 (*b*)
December ,, ..	375	808,428	6,103	0.8
1950 March ,, ..	375	822,464	6,963	0.8
June ,, ..	375	819,331	6,361	0.8
September ,, ..	375	828,094	7,038	0.8
December ,, ..	374	838,536	6,253	0.7
1951 March ,, ..	374	848,571	5,543	0.7
June ,, ..	374	848,929	6,612	0.8
September ,, ..	374	866,314	4,902	0.6
December ,, ..	374	878,285	6,047	0.7
1952 March ,, (*c*) ..	366	862,607	9,078	1.1
June ,, (*c*) ..	366	857,126	19,023	2.2

(*a*) Highest on record. (*b*) Includes all members of reporting unions indirectly affected by the dispute in the coal-mining industry; those directly affected are, however, excluded. (*c*) Subject to revision.

(iii) *Australia, by Industrial Groups, 1951.*—The next table shows the percentages unemployed in industrial groups. Industries or occupations in which employment is stable, such as railways, and those which are subject to exceptional fluctuations, such as wharf labour, pastoral, agricultural, etc., are not included. Other occupations—domestic, hotel employees, etc.—are included in the "Other and Miscellaneous" group, as their returns are not sufficiently representative. The figures are averages for the year.

Unemployment in Reporting Trade Unions: Industrial Groups, Australia, 1951.

Industrial Group.	Unions Reporting.		Unemployed.	
	Number.	Members.	Members.	Proportion of Members.
				%
Manufacturing—				
I. Wood, Furniture, etc.	16	28,486	98	0.3
II. Engineering, Metal Works, etc.	58	234,027	601	0.3
III. Food, Drink, Tobacco, etc.	53	51,496	613	1.2
IV. Clothing, Textiles, etc.	22	68,938	393	0.6
V. Books, Printing, etc.	12	30,514	48	0.2
VI. Other Manufacturing	62	67,438	1,088	1.6
VII. Building	46	102,416	1,003	1.0
VIII. Mining, Quarrying, etc.	17	24,391	691	2.8
X. Land Transport other than Railway and Tramway Services	13	54,611	366	0.7
IX., XI., XII., XIII., and XIV., Other and Miscellaneous	75	198,208	875	0.4
All Groups	374	860,525	5,776	0.7

(iv) *Australia, by Industrial Groups, September Quarter, 1939, and Quarterly, September, 1950 to June, 1952.*—The following table gives for various industrial groups the percentages of members of trade unions returned as unemployed from the September quarter of 1950 to the June quarter of 1952. The percentage of unemployed in the September quarter of 1939 is also inserted for purposes of comparison.

Unemployment in Reporting Trade Unions: Proportion Unemployed, Industrial Groups, Australia.

(Per Cent.)

Industrial Group.	1939.	1950.		1951.				1952.	
	Sept. Qtr.	Sept. Qtr.	Dec. Qtr.	March Qtr.	June Qtr.	Sept. Qtr.	Dec. Qtr.	March Qtr. (a)	June Qtr. (a)
Manufacturing—									
I. Wood, Furniture, etc.	18.1	0.4	0.4	0.2	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.6	1.6
II. Engineering, Metal Works, etc.	8.6	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.4	0.6	1.6
III. Food, Drink, Tobacco, etc.	18.4	2.5	1.5	1.4	1.3	1.1	1.0	1.9	3.6
IV. Clothing, Textiles, etc.	13.3	1.0	1.0	0.6	0.7	0.4	0.6	1.8	2.9
V. Books, Printing, etc.	5.1	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.3
VI. Other Manufacturing	9.9	1.7	2.1	1.8	1.8	1.6	1.3	3.0	5.2
VII. Building	9.3	1.1	0.8	0.9	1.0	0.8	1.3	1.1	2.1
VIII. Mining, Quarrying, etc.	12.6	3.4	3.5	3.2	2.9	2.6	2.7	2.8	2.6
X. Other Land Transport	8.7	0.6	0.4	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.7	1.2	5.6
IX., XI., XII., XIII., and XIV., Other and Miscellaneous	7.4	0.6	0.4	0.3	0.8	0.3	0.4	0.6	1.1
AUSTRALIA	10.2	0.8	0.7	0.7	0.8	0.6	0.7	1.1	2.2

(a) Subject to revision.

(v) *States, 1951.*—In making interstate comparisons of unemployment percentages, allowance must be made for the circumstance that the industries included in the returns from trade unions are not identical in the various States, and that for some States the returns are more representative than for others. The State percentages shown below, therefore, should not be read as indicating the relative degree of unemployment amongst unionists in the individual States but as an indication

of the trend of unemployment within each State as estimated or recorded by secretaries of those Trade Unions which supply returns. The figures in the following table are averages for the year 1951.

Unemployment in Reporting Trade Unions: 1951.

State.	Unions Reporting.		Unemployed.	
	Number.	Members.	Number.	Proportion of Members.
				%
New South Wales	105	354,408	2,714	0.8
Victoria	74	240,643	1,410	0.6
Queensland	43	110,659	470	0.4
South Australia	53	80,222	605	0.8
Western Australia	65	53,532	385	0.7
Tasmania	34	21,061	192	0.9
Australia	374	860,525	5,776	0.7

(vi) *States, 1932 to 1951 and Quarterly, March, 1949 to June, 1952.*— The results of the quarterly investigations as to unemployment in the years 1913 to December, 1948, were published in previous issues of this Report and in the *Quarterly Summary of Australian Statistics*. The following table shows for each State the percentage of members of trade unions returned as unemployed for the years 1932 to 1951 and quarterly from March, 1949 to June, 1952 :—

Unemployment in Reporting Trade Unions: Proportion Unemployed.

(Per Cent.)

Period.	N.S.W.	Victoria.	Q'land.	S. Aust.	W. Aust.	Tas.	Australia.
1932 (Average for year) ..	32.5	26.5	18.8	34.0	29.5	25.9	29.0
1933 „ „ ..	28.9	22.3	15.3	29.9	24.8	18.6	25.1
1934 „ „ ..	24.7	17.4	11.7	25.6	17.8	17.4	20.5
1935 „ „ ..	20.6	14.0	8.7	17.6	13.4	13.2	16.5
1936 „ „ ..	15.4	10.7	7.8	10.8	8.1	9.8	12.2
1937 „ „ ..	10.9	9.0	7.3	8.2	5.6	7.3	9.3
1938 „ „ ..	9.9	8.6	6.4	8.3	5.7	7.9	8.7
1939 „ „ ..	11.0	10.4	5.9	9.3	7.1	8.1	9.7
1940 „ „ ..	11.0	5.8	5.5	7.0	5.6	5.2	8.0
1941 „ „ ..	4.7	2.5	4.5	2.7	2.9	3.3	3.7
1942 „ „ ..	1.8	1.2	2.3	1.1	1.6	0.8	1.6
1943 „ „ ..	1.4	0.7	1.2	0.9	1.5	1.3	1.1
1944 „ „ ..	1.6	0.8	0.7	1.0	1.5	0.8	1.2
1945 „ „ ..	1.5	0.9	0.7	1.3	1.2	1.0	1.2
1946 „ „ ..	1.5	1.2	0.9	1.4	1.5	2.0	1.4
1947 „ „ ..	1.3	1.2	0.7	1.0	1.2	2.3	1.2
1948 „ „ ..	1.0	0.8	0.4	1.1	0.9	0.7	0.9
1949(*a*) „ „ ..	3.2	0.7	0.9	2.3	0.9	0.6	2.0
1950 „ „ ..	1.0	0.7	0.4	0.9	1.1	0.6	0.8
1951 „ „ ..	0.8	0.6	0.4	0.8	0.7	0.9	0.7
1949 March Qtr. ..	0.9	0.7	0.4	0.8	0.8	0.5	0.8
June „ ..	0.9	0.8	0.3	1.0	0.7	0.3	0.8
Sept. „(*a*) ..	10.2	0.9	2.7	6.5	1.3	0.7	5.5
Dec. „ ..	1.0	0.6	0.3	0.9	0.7	0.8	0.8
1950 March Qtr. ..	1.1	0.7	0.3	0.7	1.0	0.6	0.8
June „ ..	1.0	0.5	0.3	0.7	1.5	0.8	0.8
Sept. „ ..	1.1	0.7	0.5	1.1	0.8	0.5	0.8
Dec. „ ..	0.9	0.7	0.3	0.9	0.9	0.4	0.7
1951 March Qtr. ..	0.8	0.6	0.2	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.7
June „ ..	0.9	0.6	0.8	0.8	0.7	1.0	0.8
Sept. „ ..	0.6	0.5	0.2	0.8	0.7	1.2	0.6
Dec. „ ..	0.7	0.7	0.4	0.8	0.7	0.9	0.7
1952 March Qtr. (*b*) ..	1.2	1.0	1.1	0.9	0.5	1.1	1.1
June „ (*b*) ..	2.8	1.6	1.8	2.0	1.6	3.4	2.2

(*a*) See note (*b*) on page 120. (*b*) Subject to revision.

3. **Unemployment, Various Countries.**—In the following table, the percentage of unemployment in various countries is shown for each month of 1951. The figures are obtained chiefly from the *Monthly Bulletin of Statistics*, published by the Statistical Office of the United Nations. Comparisons of the relative percentages of unemployment in the countries shown in the following table should be made with caution as the statistics are of varying scope and value according to the type and sources of the data. The absolute figures are of limited significance, their principal value being from the point of view of fluctuations or changes in unemployment.

Unemployment in various Countries during 1951.

Country.	Percentage Unemployed in Month of—												Average for Year.
	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.	
Australia (*a*) ..	..	0.7	..	..	0.8	..	..	0.6	..	..	0.7	..	0.7
Canada (*b*) ..	..	..	3.3	..	..	1.6	..	1.4	..	..	1.9	..	2.1
Denmark (*c*) ..	15.3	14.6	14.6	6.6	4.6	4.0	5.5	5.9	6.0	6.8	11.5	21.0	9.7
Ireland (*d*) ..	9.0	8.5	7.9	7.7	7.0	6.1	6.0	6.2	6.2	6.7	8.2	7.9	7.3
Sweden (*e*) ..	2.7	2.4	2.9	1.7	1.1	1.1	1.4	1.2	0.9	0.9	1.4	3.8	1.8
Switzerland (*f*) ..	2.6	1.8	1.0	0.4	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.6	1.8	0.8
United States (*g*) ..	4.1	3.9	3.4	2.8	2.6	3.1	2.9	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.9	2.7	3.0

(*a*) Returns from trade unions representing 55 per cent. of total trade union membership. (*b*) Estimates based on quarterly sample surveys of the labour force each of which refers to a specific week. (*c*) Unemployed members of trade union unemployment insurance funds. (*d*) Compulsory unemployment insurance returns. (*e*) Trade union returns. (*f*) Wholly unemployed registered at labour exchanges. (*g*) Estimates based on monthly sample surveys of the labour force in a specific week of each month.

§ 3. Commonwealth Employment Service.

The Commonwealth Employment Service was established under Section 47 of the Re-Establishment and Employment Act 1945, and under the Social Services Legislation Declaratory Act 1947.

The principal function of this Service, as set out in Section 48 of the first-mentioned Act, is to provide services and facilities in relation to employment for the benefit of persons seeking to change employment, or to engage labour, and to provide facilities to assist in bringing about and maintaining a high and stable level of employment throughout the Commonwealth. The Act also gives the Service a number of specific functions in relation to the re-establishment of ex-servicemen.

The Service also assists in the administration of the Unemployment and Sickness Benefits, provided under the Social Services Consolidation Act 1947–1952, as well as the Re-Employment Allowance, provided under the Re-Establishment and Employment Act for certain classes of discharged members of the Forces. All persons who wish to claim unemployment benefits or re-employment allowances must register with their residential Employment Office which is responsible for checking their claim and for certifying whether or not suitable employment can be offered to them.

In addition to giving advice on employment problems through a network of District Employment Offices, the Service provides free vocational guidance in each State other than New South Wales by means of a staff of qualified psychologists. (In New South Wales a similar service is provided by the

New South Wales Department of Labour, Industry and Social Welfare who act as agents for the Service in this regard.) While vocational guidance is available to any individual, it is provided particularly for juveniles entering employment for the first time, for ex-servicemen, and for physically and mentally handicapped persons. Invalid pensioners being considered by the Department of Social Services for training under the provisions of the Social Services Consolidation Act 1947–1952, are examined by the Vocational Guidance Branch before training is provided. During the twelve months ended June, 1952, the Service provided vocational guidance for 9,840 individuals.

Under the scheme operated by the International Refugee Organization for the resettlement of Displaced Persons from Europe following the 1939–45 War, the Commonwealth Employment Service is responsible for placing the workers amongst these people in employment where their services will be of most use in increasing production. Up to 30th June, 1952, a total of 101,913 Displaced Persons had been so placed.

Towards the middle of 1950 the Service assumed a new responsibility, that of placing migrants from Great Britain under the Commonwealth-Nominated Migration Scheme. Following the agreements entered into with the Dutch, West German and Italian Governments for the entry of selected European workers into the country, the Commonwealth Employment Service has undertaken the initial placement of such persons.

Since early in 1951, the Commonwealth Employment Service has been responsible for the registration, medical examination, interview and call-up of young men for training in the Armed Forces under the National Service Acts 1951 which are administered by the Department of Labour and National Service. The Service is also responsible for administering the provisions of the Act relating to the protection of the rights of National Service trainees in relation to their civil employment.

In association with its placement activities, the Commonwealth Employment Service carries out regular surveys of the labour market in all areas and supplies detailed information on the employment situation to Government Departments and instrumentalities and to the public. In order to assist in making effective placements, job analysis studies of Australian occupations are also made.

The Service operates within the Employment Division of the Department of Labour and National Service, and is under the control of the Permanent Head of that Department. It functions on a decentralized basis. The Central Office is in Melbourne, and there is a Head Office in the capital city of each State, with 118 District Employment Offices and Branches in suburban and the larger provincial centres, and with 246 agents in the smaller country centres responsible to the various District Employment Offices. The District Offices and Branches are distributed as follows :— New South Wales, 46 ; Victoria, 29 ; Queensland, 19 ; South Australia, 9 (including Darwin) ; Western Australia, 11 ; Tasmania, 4.

The Service completed its sixth year of operation in May, 1952. During the year ended June, 1952 there were 500,178 new registrations of applicants for employment of whom 381,991 were referred to employers and 271,125 placed in employment. Corresponding figures for the year ended June, 1951, were 471,501, 434,746 and 327,419 respectively. During 1951–52 there were

387,888 new notifications of vacancies, compared with 494,445 during 1950–51. Vacancies unfilled were 37,930 at the end of June, 1952 and 124,854 at the end of June, 1951. 567,017 persons received advice or information during 1951–52 and 460,579 during 1950–51 while 9,872 and 25,626 displaced persons were placed in employment during 1951–52 and 1950–51 respectively.

§ 4. State Labour Exchanges.

With the setting up of the Commonwealth Employment Service referred to in the preceding section most of the State Labour Exchange Organizations existing previously have been superseded. Details concerning the organization and administration of these exchanges in the several States were given in Labour Report No. 30, page 133.

§ 5. Commonwealth Unemployment and Sickness Benefits.

1. **General.**—A very important addition was made to Commonwealth social legislation when the Unemployment and Sickness Benefits Act 1944, (from 1st July, 1947, incorporated in the Social Services Consolidation Act 1947–1952) received the Royal Assent on 5th April, 1944.

The Act came into operation on 1st July, 1945, and is financed from the National Welfare Fund. The first payments were made on 19th July, 1945.

Persons eligible include all males between the ages of 16 and 65 years and all females between the ages of 16 and 60 years who have lived in Australia for the twelve months immediately preceding the claim or who satisfy the Director-General of Social Services that they intend to remain permanently in Australia and who are not receiving a Service pension under the Repatriation Act or an invalid, age, or widow's pension or payment under the Tuberculosis Act.

The payment of unemployment benefit is subject to the claimant being capable of undertaking and willing to accept suitable employment. Except where the applicant lives in remote or inaccessible areas of Australia or where for some good reason it is impossible to do so, the payment of sickness benefit is subject to the production of a medical certificate or some other satisfactory evidence.

2. **Maximum Rates of Benefits and Income.**—The maximum weekly rates of benefits for both unemployment and sickness and permissible income are as follows :—

Age and Conjugal Condition.	Maximum Weekly Benefit.				Permissible Income.	Total Benefit Plus Income.
	Claimant.	Dependent Spouse.	Child.	Total.		
Unmarried—	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
16 years and under 17 years	30 0	..	..	30 0	5 0	35 0
17 years and under 18 years	30 0	..	..	30 0	10 0	40 0
18 years and under 21 years	40 0	..	..	40 0	15 0	55 0
21 years and over ..	50 0	..	..	50 0	20 0	70 0
Married	50 0	40 0	5 0	95 0	20 0	115 0

Where an unmarried claimant has the custody, care, and control of a child under the age of sixteen years, the total benefit may be increased by 5s. per week.

Additional benefit (not exceeding 40s. per week) may be paid in respect of claimant's housekeeper where no such benefit is payable in respect of his wife, provided there are one or more children under sixteen years of age in the home and the woman is substantially dependent on the claimant, but is not employed by him.

3. **Means Test.**—All benefits are subject to a means test which disregards the value of property owned by a claimant. In applying the means test for sickness benefit, any amount up to 40s. per week received by claimant from a friendly society or other approved benefit society is disregarded. For the purpose of calculating unemployment benefit, the income of the claimant and spouse is taken into account, but in the case of sickness benefit the claimant's income only will be considered in determining the amount of benefit because of the possession of other income.

A war pension is not regarded as income in assessing unemployment and sickness benefit, except where benefit is claimed for the same disability for which a war pension is granted.

Where a person is entitled to some other payment such as workers' compensation in respect of the disability for which he claims sickness benefit, payment will be made only to the extent to which such other payment is less than the amount of the sickness benefit.

In the case of unemployment the Act provides for payment of benefit for the duration of the unemployment, and in the case of sickness for the duration of temporary incapacity. Where incapacity through sickness becomes permanent, an invalid pension may be granted, subject to the conditions governing the grant of invalid pensions.

4. **Waiting Period.**—There is a waiting period of seven days in respect of which unemployment or sickness benefit is not payable.

5. **Special Benefit.**—A special benefit may be granted at a rate not exceeding that which might otherwise have been payable in cases of hardship where a person is not qualified for either sickness or unemployment benefit by reason of his inability to comply with one or other of the statutory requirements.

6. **Rehabilitation.**—Unemployment and sickness beneficiaries are eligible for participation in the Commonwealth rehabilitation scheme under the same conditions as invalid pensioners. The grant or continuance of an unemployment or sickness benefit may be refused if the claimant or beneficiary, on being required, fails to undergo a medical examination or to receive treatment or undertake training to do any suitable work.

In the year 1951–52 the number of unemployment and sickness beneficiaries examined was 8,516 of whom 1,280 were accepted for treatment or training, and the number placed in employment was 946.

7. **Unemployment Benefits.**—(i) *Number on Benefit.*—The following table shows the number of persons on benefit at the end of each month January, 1951, to June, 1952 :—

Number of Persons on Unemployment Benefit at End of Each Month.(*a*)

Month.	Persons.						Australia.		
	New South Wales. (*b*)	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia. (*c*)	Western Australia	Tasmania.	Males.	Females.	Persons.
1951—January ..	179	46	401	5	64	9	585	119	704
February ..	170	30	703	6	54	11	851	123	974
March	433	43	646	5	54	9	1,053	137	1,190
April	266	48	291	4	53	8	541	129	670
May	261	45	309	3	46	7	521	150	671
June	246	32	263	3	50	10	457	147	604
July	233	198	137	5	49	8	487	143	630
August	121	45	138	9	45	9	241	126	367
September ..	102	206	148	4	38	7	384	121	505
October ..	118	24	210	6	31	3	281	111	392
November ..	152	51	483	4	26	3	575	144	719
December ..	336	126	1,551	4	47	3	1,808	259	2,067
1952—January ..	336	53	2,190	3	48	5	2,265	370	2,635
February ..	460	40	2,293	4	50	5	2,253	599	2,852
March	858	111	2,742	23	55	7	2,708	1,088	3,796
April	1,370	279	2,530	18	55	9	2,861	1,400	4,261
May	2,687	379	2,016	57	82	24	3,617	1,628	5,245
June	4,613	1,133	2,055	153	236	104	6,108	2,186	8,294

(*a*) Last Saturday of month. (*b*) Includes Australian Capital Territory. (*c*) Includes Northern Territory.

(ii) *Payments made.*—The amounts paid in unemployment benefits for the months January, 1951, to June, 1952, are shown in the following table :—

Unemployment Benefit Payments During Each Month.

(£.)

Month.	New South Wales.(*a*)	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia. (*b*)	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australia.
1951—January ..	4,092	679	1,758	*Cr.* 145	432	63	6,879
February ..	2,430	*Cr.* 755	3,482	27	428	56	5,668
March ..	1,476	238	6,324	*Cr.* 24	306	97	8,417
April ..	2,260	703	4,387	*Cr.* 49	354	34	7,689
May ..	2,592	818	2,139	*Cr.* 51	376	53	5,927
June ..	925	414	*Cr.* 1,938	273	343	88	105
July ..	1,771	93	1,738	30	330	62	4,024
August ..	1,952	92	1,470	32	293	92	3,931
September	697	578	926	12	231	74	2,518
October ..	1,142	831	1,059	44	279	54	3,409
November ..	1,014	425	2,393	36	193	24	4,085
December ..	548	314	6,695	12	249	102	7,920
1952—January ..	3,200	626	12,580	17	491	50	16,964
February ..	2,437	427	20,843	18	297	35	24,057
March ..	3,400	440	17,903	150	345	41	22,279
April ..	7,758	684	17,491	116	326	67	26,442
May ..	9,856	3,116	15,385	128	434	118	29,037
June ..	21,360	3,589	15,743	430	906	317	42,345

(*a*) Includes Australian Capital Territory. (*b*) Includes Northern Territory.

§ 6. Industrial Disputes.

1. **General.**—The collection of information relating to industrial disputes involving stoppage of work in Australia was initiated by this Bureau at the beginning of the year 1913. Particulars for the first complete year were published in Labour Report No. 5, Section XI. An examination of

official reports, newspapers, and other publications showed that there was insufficient material for the compilation of complete information for years prior to 1913.

Annual figures for years since 1913 are contained in Labour Reports Nos. 6 to 39 while particulars for the year 1951 are shown in the following table.

2. **Industrial Disputes in Industrial Groups, 1951.**—The following table deals with industrial disputes involving stoppage of work during the year 1951 in industrial groups.

The number of industrial disputes recorded during 1951 was 1,344 as compared with 1,276 during the previous year. In New South Wales 1,052 disputes occurred in 1951, 816 of which involved workpeople engaged in the coal-mining industry. Working days lost during 1951 amounted to 872,974 for all disputes in Australia, as compared with 2,062,888 working days lost during 1950. The estimated loss of wages was £2,256,028 in 1951, as compared with £4,166,418 for the year 1950.

Industrial Disputes in Industrial Groups, 1951.

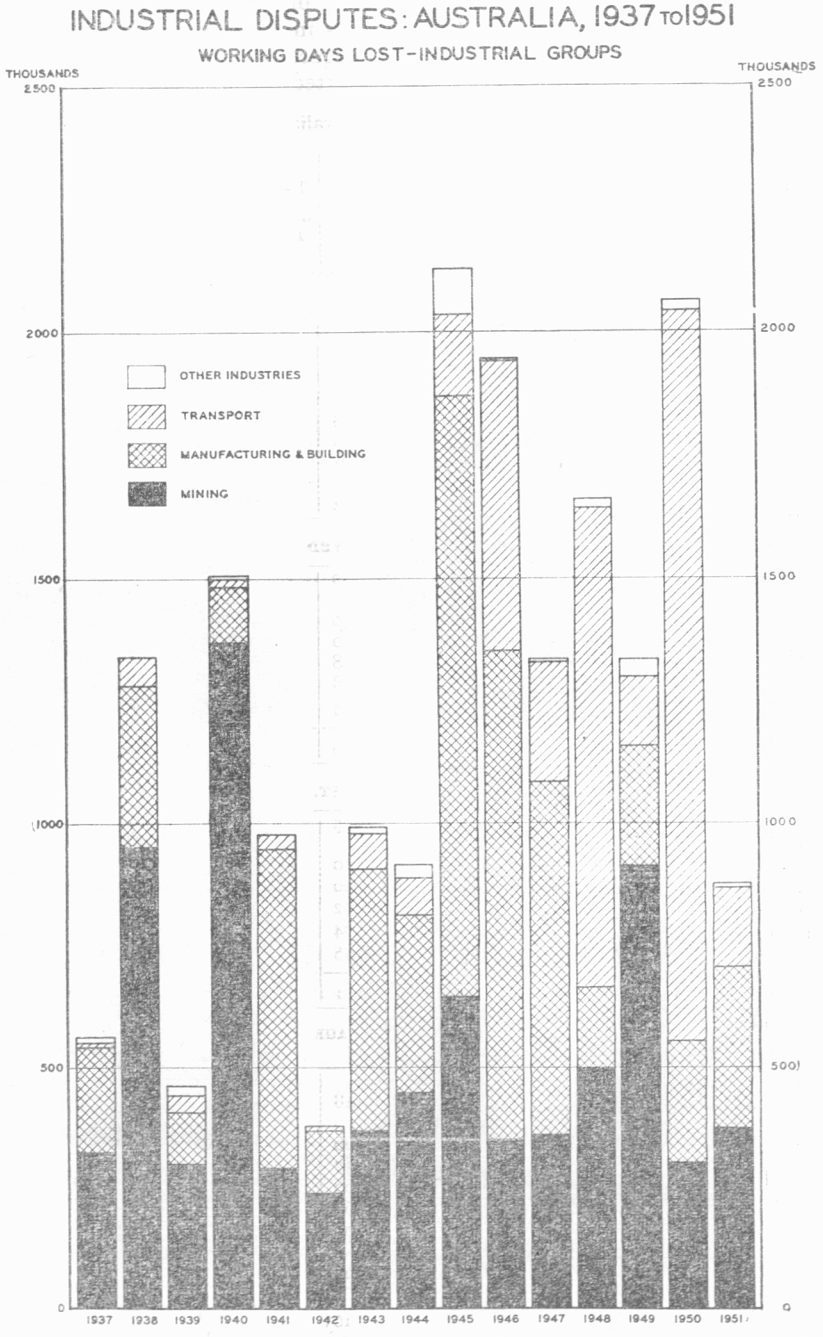
Class.	Industrial Group.	Number.	Establishments Involved.	Workpeople Involved.			Working Days Lost.	Estimated Loss in Wages.
				Directly.	Indirectly. (a)	Total.		
								£
	New South Wales.							
II.	Engineering, metal works, etc.	77	3,285	48,389	3,169	51,558	182,682	446,329
III.	Food, drink, etc.	9	14	5,614	43	5,657	23,697	53,405
IV.	Clothing, textiles, etc. ..	2	2	248	..	248	974	1,758
VI.	Other manufacturing ..	25	27	3,872	2,539	6,411	39,309	114,751
VII.	Building	18	23	1,774	109	1,883	10,109	23,972
VIII.	(i) Coal-mining	816	1,381	142,941	14,673	157,614	299,118	772,460
	(ii) Other mining, quarries, etc.	3	5	2,147	673	2,820	36,186	188,900
XI.	Railway and tramway services	21	32	8,470	..	8,470	3,585	8,364
X.	Other land transport ..	10	10	9,744	2,457	12,201	14,589	38,059
XI.	Shipping, wharf labour, etc. ..	59	612	56,103	75	56,178	69,395	149,700
XIII.	Domestic, hotels, etc. ..	1	1	10	..	10	40	80
XIV.	Miscellaneous	11	22	511	..	511	2,734	6,169
	Total	1,052	5,414	279,823	23,738	303,561	682,418	1,803,947
	Victoria.							
II.	Engineering, metal works, etc.	4	4	399	..	399	3,466	7,897
III.	Food, drink, etc.	3	3	967	..	967	2,072	5,203
V.	Books, printing, etc. ..	1	3	104	..	104	728	1,524
VI.	Other manufacturing ..	2	2	98	..	98	170	200
VII.	Building	4	6	1,411	..	1,411	7,182	22,248
VIII.	(i) Coal-mining	3	5	1,770	..	1,770	3,480	7,960
IX.	Railway and tramway services	2	2	6,229	..	6,229	6,229	13,195
X.	Other land transport ..	3	3	259	..	259	512	852
XI.	Shipping, wharf labour, etc. ..	16	189	15,539	..	15,539	17,841	44,009
XIV.	Miscellaneous	3	3	443	..	443	530	950
	Total	41	220	27,219	..	27,219	42,210	104,038
	Queensland.							
II.	Engineering, metal works, etc.	3	3	196	..	196	7,506	15,064
III.	Food, drink, etc.	2	7	4,190	..	4,190	24,760	49,394
V.	Books, printing, etc. ..	1	1	35	..	35	215	405
VI.	Other manufacturing ..	2	2	92	..	92	114	278
VIII.	(i) Coal-mining	92	348	12,847	231	13,078	32,499	80,470
IX.	Railway and tramway services	1	1	950	4,171	5,121	5,121	12,802
XI.	Shipping, wharf labour, etc. ..	86	371	33,203	10	33,213	25,484	59,055
XIV.	Miscellaneous	4	18	172	..	172	608	986
	Total (b)	191	751	51,685	4,412	56,097	96,307	218,454

Industrial Disputes in Industrial Groups, 1951—*continued.*

Class.	Industrial Group.	Number.	Establishments Involved	Workpeople Involved.			Working Days Lost.	Estimated Loss in Wages.
				Directly.	Indirectly. (*a*)	Total.		
	South Australia—							£
I.	Wood, furniture, etc. ..	1	2	105	..	105	420	800
II.	Engineering, metal works, etc.	2	4	331	21	352	3,647	10,839
III.	Food, drink, etc.	3	18	887	..	887	16,957	43,580
VI.	Other manufacturing ..	2	2	47	..	47	141	212
XI.	Shipping, wharf labour, etc. ..	19	162	11,343	..	11,343	12,892	32,855
	Total	27	188	12,713	21	12,734	34,057	88,286
	Western Australia—							
II.	Engineering, metal works, etc.	1	1	110	..	110	165	330
III.	Food, drink, etc.	2	2	150	..	150	150	350
IX.	Railway and tramway services	1	1	40	..	40	120	250
XI.	Shipping, wharf labour, etc. ..	6	36	3,879	..	3,879	4,666	11,464
	Total	10	40	4,179	..	4,179	5,101	12,394
	Tasmania—							
VII.	Building	2	3	263	..	263	4,039	8,901
VIII.	(i) Coal-mining	1	11	270	..	270	1,350	3,038
	(ii) Other mining, quarries, etc.	1	1	23	..	23	69	300
XI.	Shipping, wharf labour, etc. ..	17	41	4,088	..	4,088	4,943	11,710
	Total (*b*)	21	56	4,644	..	4,644	10,401	23,949
	Northern Territory—							
XI.	Shipping, wharf labour, etc. ..	1	1	48	..	48	60	120
	Australian Capital Territory—							
VII.	Building	1	6	110	..	110	2,420	4,840
	Australia—							
I.	Wood, furniture, etc. ..	1	2	105	..	105	420	800
II.	Engineering, metal works, etc.	87	3,297	49,425	3,190	52,615	197,466	480,459
III.	Food, drink, etc.	19	44	11,808	43	11,851	67,636	151,932
IV.	Clothing, textiles, etc. ..	2	2	248	..	248	974	1,758
V.	Books, printing, etc. ..	2	4	139	..	139	943	1,929
VI.	Other manufacturing ..	31	33	4,109	2,539	6,648	39,734	115,441
VII.	Building	25	38	3,558	109	3,667	23,750	59,961
VIII.	(i) Coal-mining	912	1,745	157,828	14,904	172,732	336,447	863,928
	(ii) Other mining, quarries, etc.	4	6	2,170	673	2,843	36,255	189,200
IX.	Railway and tramway services	25	36	15,689	4,171	19,860	15,055	34,611
X.	Other land transport ..	13	13	10,003	2,457	12,460	15,101	38,911
XI.	Shipping, wharf labour, etc. ..	204	1,412	124,203	85	124,288	135,281	308,913
XIII.	Domestic, hotels, etc. ..	1	1	10	..	10	40	80
XIV.	Miscellaneous	18	43	1,126	..	1,126	3,872	8,105
	Total (*b*)	1,344	6,676	380,421	28,171	408,592	872,974	2,256,028

(*a*) Persons thrown out of work at the establishments where the stoppages occurred but not themselves parties to the disputes. (*b*) The following disputes commenced in, and were uncompleted at the end of 1950, and the figures shown in the table below are included in the statistics of both 1950 and 1951.

State.	Number of Disputes.	Establishments Involved.	Workpeople Involved.		
			Directly.	Indirectly.	Total.
Queensland	3	5	357	..	357
Tasmania	1	1	20	..	20


INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES: AUSTRALIA, 1937 TO 1951
WORKING DAYS LOST - INDUSTRIAL GROUPS
THOUSANDS
2500
2000
1500
1000
500
0
OTHER INDUSTRIES
TRANSPORT
MANUFACTURING & BUILDING
MINING
1937
1938
1939
1940
1941
1942
1943
1944
1945
1946
1947
1948
1949
1950
1951

3. Industrial Disputes, 1939, 1947 to 1951.—(i) *Australia.*—The following table shows in industrial groups the number of industrial disputes, the number of workpeople involved, and the losses in working days and wages for each of the years 1947 to 1951, with the aggregate for the same period. Figures for the year 1939 have also been inserted.

Industrial Disputes: Australia.

Year.	Manufacturing. (Groups I. to VI.)	Building. (Group VII.)	Mining. (Group VIII.)		Transport, Land and Sea. (Groups IX. to XI.)	Miscellaneous. (Groups XII. to XIV.)	ALL GROUPS.
			(i) Coal-mining.	(ii) Other Mining.			
			NUMBER.				
1939 ..	20	3	362	4	6	21	416
1947 ..	69	16	818	1	69	9	982
1948 ..	60	13	974	2	68	24	1,141
1949 ..	68	3	644	3	122	9	849
1950 ..	118	21	953	3	159	22	1,276
1951 ..	142	25	912	4	242	19	1,344
1947–51 ..	457	78	4,301	13	660	83	5,592
			WORKPEOPLE INVOLVED.				
1939 ..	8,818	57	137,792	900	2,017	3,246	152,830
1947 ..	35,475	39,114	192,390	500	58,483	1,175	327,137
1948 ..	17,347	2,612	198,849	1,360	92,395	4,586	317,149
1949 ..	25,358	284	146,948	928	78,165	12,894	264,577
1950 ..	80,994	10,768	178,734	3,638	150,462	7,105	431,701
1951 ..	71,606	3,667	172,732	2,843	156,608	1,136	408,592
1947–51 ..	230,780	56,445	889,653	9,269	536,113	26,896	1,749,156
			WORKING DAYS LOST.				
1939 ..	108,709	563	291,067	3,805	35,016	19,994	459,154
1947 ..	559,524	159,443	357,747	5,000	251,251	5,763	1,338,728
1948 ..	156,109	10,099	474,571	32,000	975,168	14,739	1,662,686
1949 ..	243,197	573	868,333	39,152	147,278	35,457	1,333,990
1950 ..	231,684	18,219	283,543	18,204	1,492,195	19,043	2,062,888
1951 ..	307,173	23,750	336,447	36,255	165,437	3,912	872,974
1947–51 ..	1,497,687	212,084	2,320,641	130,611	3,031,329	78,914	7,271,266
			ESTIMATED LOSS IN WAGES. (£.)				
1939 ..	83,540	424	335,033	4,728	22,114	9,877	455,716
1947 ..	713,407	238,939	566,115	7,000	364,395	8,229	1,898,085
1948 ..	242,948	16,719	882,527	60,932	1,073,867	22,121	2,299,114
1949 ..	445,303	1,171	1,741,238	80,300	280,056	63,468	2,611,536
1950 ..	418,245	37,817	616,094	86,261	2,977,558	30,443	4,166,418
1951 ..	752,319	59,961	863,928	189,200	382,435	8,185	2,256,028
1947–51 ..	2,572,222	354,607	4,669,902	423,693	5,078,311	132,446	13,231,181

Satisfactory comparisons of the frequency of industrial disputes in classified industries can be made only after omitting those which are recorded for coal-mining (Group VIII. (i)). For the year 1951 these disputes represented 68 per cent. of the annual total.

During the five years 1947 to 1951, working days lost through dislocations of work involving employees in coal-mining numbered 2,320,641, representing 32 per cent. of the total loss of working days for the period. The majority of these disputes occurred in New South Wales. In making comparisons regarding the number and magnitude of disputes in this particular class it should be noted that the number of workers engaged in the coal-mining industry is very much larger in New South Wales than in any other State.

(ii) *States and Territories.*—The number of industrial disputes in each State and Territory during the years 1939 and 1948 to 1951, together with the workpeople involved, the working days lost, and the estimated loss in wages are given in the following table :—

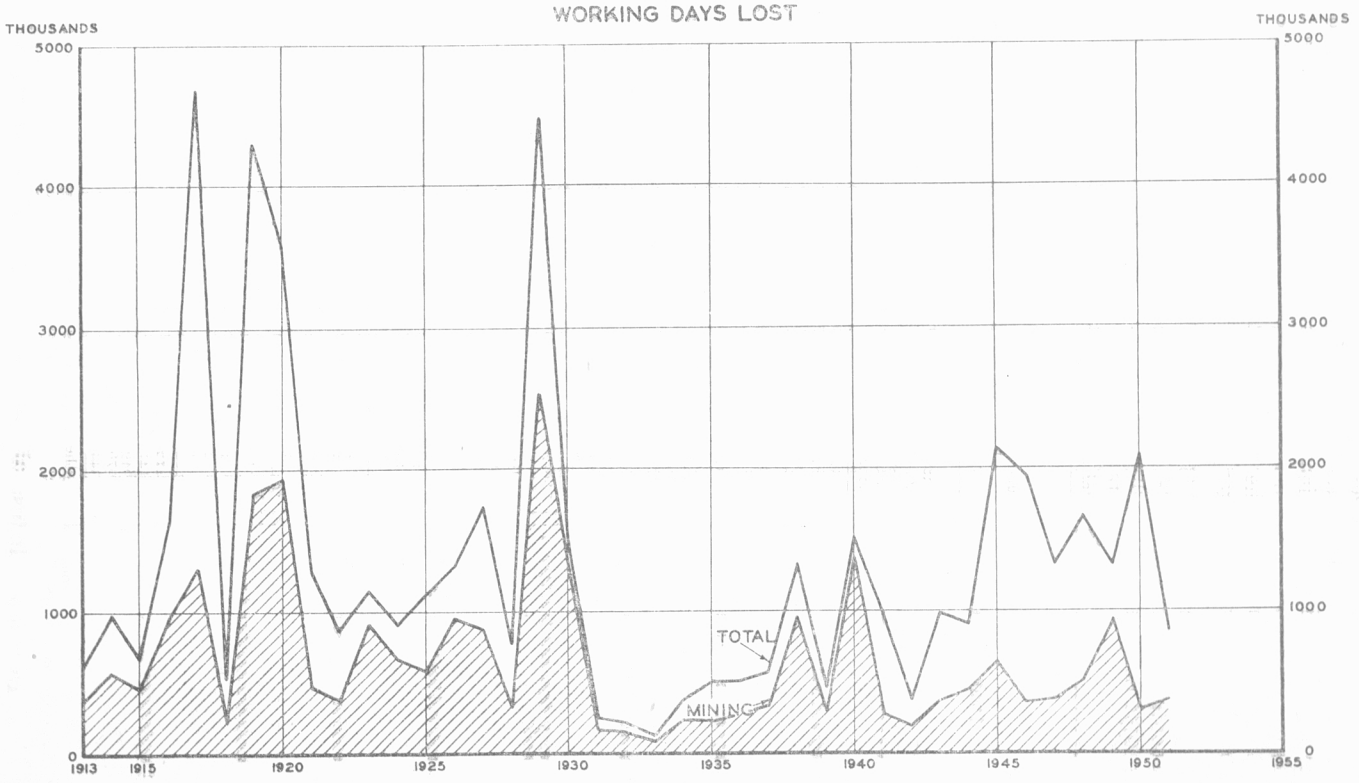
Industrial Disputes: States and Territories.

State or Territory.	Year.	Number.	Establishments Involved.	Workpeople Involved.			Working Days Lost.	Estimated Loss in Wages.
				Directly.	Indirectly. (a)	Total.		
								£
New South Wales	1939	386	460	139,301	9,230	148,531	410,183	419,330
	1948	1,071	1,832	235,473	7,036	242,509	644,961	1,155,940
	1949	739	3,428	197,367	3,526	200,893	1,005,285	1,981,769
	1950	1,030	7,305	289,269	22,498	311,767	639,305	1,333,938
	1951	1,052	5,414	279,823	23,738	303,561	682,418	1,803,947
Victoria	1939	10	10	1,989	180	2,169	27,313	19,946
	1948	21	82	41,734	155	41,889	159,903	240,634
	1949	20	193	22,018	..	22,018	60,112	115,883
	1950	33	1,142	59,161	14,826	73,987	1,208,365	2,395,691
	1951	41	220	27,219	..	27,219	42,210	104,038
Queensland	1939	5	6	373	2	375	1,870	1,753
	1948	12	27	13,734	7,797	21,531	815,107	833,269
	1949	38	234	26,184	87	26,271	183,333	351,985
	1950	147	285	24,157	2,483	26,640	74,007	142,721
	1951	191	751	51,685	4,412	56,097	96,307	218,454
South Australia	1939	2	2	170	5	175	1,880	1,416
	1948	21	28	5,891	1,136	7,027	30,264	47,138
	1949	18	45	5,845	147	5,992	28,318	51,541
	1950	29	251	13,766	402	14,168	126,538	264,704
	1951	27	188	12,713	21	12,734	34,057	88,286
Western Australia	1939	7	7	1,108	145	1,253	14,100	9,578
	1948	9	26	2,356	..	2,356	7,836	15,296
	1949	16	33	5,564	97	5,661	26,287	52,421
	1950	15	31	1,952	..	1,952	5,728	11,491
	1951	10	40	4,179	..	4,179	5,101	12,394
Tasmania	1939	4	4	53	..	53	166	93
	1948	4	5	468	..	468	950	1,473
	1949	15	48	3,503	..	3,503	29,316	55,319
	1950	19	45	3,089	11	3,100	8,447	16,296
	1951	21	56	4,644	..	4,644	10,401	23,949
Northern Territory	1939	2	16	234	40	274	3,642	3,600
	1948	3	82	1,369	..	1,369	3,665	5,364
	1949	2	2	200	..	200	1,261	2,522
	1950	1	1	43	..	43	430	1,450
	1951	1	1	48	..	48	60	120
Aust. Cap. Territory	1939	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	1948	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	1949	1	1	39	..	39	78	96
	1950	2	2	44	..	44	98	127
	1951	1	6	110	..	110	2,420	4,840
Australia	1939	416	505	143,228	9,602	152,830	459,154	455,716
	1948	1,141	2,082	301,025	16,124	317,149	1,662,686	2,299,114
	1949	849	3,984	260,720	3,857	264,577	1,333,990	2,611,536
	1950	1,276	9,122	391,481	40,220	431,701	2,062,888	4,166,418
	1951	1,344	6,676	380,421	28,171	408,592	872,974	2,256,028

(a) Persons thrown out of work at the establishments where the stoppages occurred but not themselves parties to the disputes.

4. **Duration of Industrial Disputes.**—(i) *General.*—The duration of each industrial dispute involving a loss of work, i.e., the time between the cessation and resumption of work, has been calculated in working days, exclusive of

INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES: AUSTRALIA, 1913 TO 1951



Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, except where the establishment involved carries on a continuous process (e.g., Metal Smelting and Cement Manufacture). The following limitations of time have been adopted :—(*a*) One day and less ; (*b*) two days and more than one day ; (*c*) three days and more than two days ; (*d*) over three days and under one week ; (*e*) one week and under two weeks ; (*f*) two weeks and under four weeks ; (*g*) four weeks and under eight weeks ; and (*h*) eight weeks and over.

(ii) *Australia*—1939, 1948 *to* 1951.—Particulars of industrial disputes, according to limits of duration, for Australia for the years 1939 and 1948 to 1951 are given in the following table :—

Duration of Industrial Disputes : Australia.

Limits of Duration.	Year.	Number.	Workpeople Involved.			Working Days Lost.	Estimated Loss in Wages.
			Directly.	Indirectly. (*a*)	Total.		
							£
1 day and less	1939	230	96,184	1,191	97,375	97,375	106,970
	1948	756	182,411	5,643	188,054	188,054	333,833
	1949	601	176,513	1,960	178,473	169,816	333,855
	1950	809	248,359	18,642	267,001	254,054	508,392
	1951	875	246,878	14,944	261,822	216,478	536,898
2 days and more than 1 day	1939	60	16,398	872	17,270	34,540	35,648
	1948	144	28,979	610	29,589	58,636	103,437
	1949	104	24,411	450	24,861	49,150	96,307
	1950	189	46,627	949	47,576	71,886	146,074
	1951	174	56,476	1,079	57,555	97,285	229,894
3 days and more than 2 days	1939	38	10,103	1,374	11,477	34,431	36,427
	1948	50	24,212	651	24,863	66,129	107,455
	1949	37	8,464	19	8,483	22,940	44,765
	1950	82	15,202	8,324	23,526	65,492	129,980
	1951	88	17,526	3,005	20,531	55,527	139,379
Over 3 days and less than 1 week	1939	34	7,540	404	7,944	36,387	37,056
	1948	81	29,992	649	30,641	140,756	256,288
	1949	26	12,877	230	13,107	49,303	99,153
	1950	58	21,726	383	22,109	72,471	147,726
	1951	46	9,888	1,503	11,391	44,272	115,436
1 week and less than 2 weeks	1939	34	6,864	2,169	9,033	75,323	67,736
	1948	63	12,979	223	13,202	121,675	192,734
	1949	43	9,770	179	9,949	58,163	99,422
	1950	73	12,175	2,133	14,308	82,215	222,061
	1951	86	28,557	2,254	30,811	198,447	481,907
2 weeks and less than 4 weeks	1939	10	5,002	3,224	8,226	116,182	116,882
	1948	27	7,110	226	7,336	135,007	214,203
	1949	16	5,046	519	5,565	75,949	140,017
	1950	45	19,756	1,449	21,205	177,291	342,669
	1951	46	11,915	5,310	17,225	139,909	459,056
4 weeks and less than 8 weeks	1939	6	618	307	925	25,463	15,908
	1948	17	14,674	8,122	22,796	915,733	1,021,576
	1949	16	17,911	347	18,258	598,110	1,175,977
	1950	13	5,475	981	6,456	119,375	256,036
	1951	19	7,802	69	7,871	49,460	118,850
8 weeks and over	1939	4	519	61	580	39,453	39,089
	1948	3	668	..	668	36,696	69,588
	1949	6	5,728	153	5,881	310,559	622,040
	1950	7	22,161	7,359	29,520	1,220,104	2,413,471
	1951	10	1,379	7	1,386	71,596	174,608
Total	1939	416	143,228	9,602	152,830	459,154	455,716
	1948	1,141	301,025	16,124	317,149	1,662,686	2,299,114
	1949	849	260,720	3,857	264,577	1,333,990	2,611,536
	1950	1,276	391,481	40,220	431,701	2,062,888	4,166,418
	1951	1,344	380,421	28,171	408,592	872,974	2,256,028

(*a*) Persons thrown out of work at the establishments where the stoppages occurred but not themselves parties to the disputes.

5. Causes of Industrial Disputes.—(i) *General.*—In previous issues of the Labour Report the causes of industrial disputes were classified in some detail for all industries combined. Commencing with this issue a new classification has been introduced and stoppages in industries other than "coal-mining" and "stevedoring" have been analysed separately. This segregation has been made because in these two industries the pattern of the disputes differs significantly from that in other industries.

Under the new classification, causes are grouped under four main headings :—(1) Wages, Hours and Leave ; (2) Physical Working Conditions and Questions of Managerial Policy; (3) Trade Unionism; (4) Other Causes. The first group is restricted to disputes involving general principles relating to wages, hours and leave, minor questions regarding the claims to pay or leave by individual employees being included under managerial policy. The second group comprises disputes regarding physical working conditions and general questions of managerial policy, which term covers those arising from disciplinary action, the promotion of employees, the employment of particular individuals, personal disagreements between employees and supervisory staff and disputes arising from the computations of wages, leave, etc., in individual cases. The third group, Trade Unionism, includes only stoppages against employment of non-unionists, inter-union and intra-union disputes, and sympathy stoppages in support of employees in another industry. The last group comprises disputes by way of protest against situations not arising from the usual relationship of employer and employee, e.g., political matters, and cases (mainly occurring in the coal-mining industry) where the cause of the stoppage is not officially made known to the management.

As the items included under these headings differ somewhat from those included under the similar headings used for classifying causes of disputes in years prior to 1950 the figures for 1950 and 1951 are not strictly comparable with those for earlier years.

(ii) *Causes of Disputes, Australia.*—The following table gives particulars of industrial disputes according to causes for the years 1913, 1939 and 1946 to 1951.

Causes of Industrial Disputes: Australia.

Cause of Dispute.	1913.	1939.	1946.	1947.	1948.	1949.	1950. (a)	1951. (a)
NUMBER OF DISPUTES.								
Wages, Hours and Leave ..	87	96	158	225	196	187	128	186
Physical Working Conditions and Managerial Policy	95	197	478	358	541	328	894	803
Trade Unionism ..	18	50	77	71	76	84	114	159
Other	8	73	156	328	328	250	140	196
Total ..	208	416	869	982	1,141	849	1,276	1,344
WORKPEOPLE INVOLVED.								
Wages, Hours and Leave ..	18,635	29,290	128,463	86,183	81,430	67,821	104,075	117,409
Physical Working Conditions and Managerial Policy	22,155	56,783	154,033	90,688	110,945	48,962	173,705	151,655
Trade Unionism ..	7,735	18,651	22,935	47,055	26,251	14,234	15,651	27,684
Other	1,758	48,106	43,117	103,211	98,523	133,560	138,270	111,844
Total ..	50,283	152,830	348,548	327,137	317,149	264,577	431,701	408,592

(a) *See* note on following page.

Causes of Industrial Disputes: Australia—*continued.*

Cause of Dispute.	1913.	1939.	1946.	1947.	1948.	1949.	1950. (a)	1951. (a)
				WORKING DAYS LOST.				
Wages, Hours and Leave ..	205,575	128,525	707,184	633,642	1,015,041	1,019,757	1,448,462	338,026
Physical Working Conditions and Managerial Policy	265,285	189,510	1,025,228	306,526	360,611	118,755	443,493	359,383
Trade Unionism ..	147,456	54,749	142,899	129,469	144,377	37,154	37,580	67,280
Other	5,212	86,370	72,533	268,991	142,657	158,324	133,353	108,285
Total ..	623,528	459,154	1,947,844	1,338,728	1,662,686	1,333,990	2,062,888	872,974

(a) Owing to the use of a new classification, figures for 1950 and 1951 are not strictly comparable with those for earlier years.

The following table shows the causes of industrial disputes during 1950 and 1951 in two broad groups of industries :—(i) Coal-mining and stevedoring, (ii) all other industries. These figures are not available for earlier years.

Causes of Industrial Disputes: Australia.

Cause of Dispute.	Coal-mining and Stevedoring.		Other Industries.		All Industries.	
	1950.	1951.	1950.	1951.	1950.	1951.
			NUMBER OF DISPUTES.			
Wages, Hours and Leave ..	57	110	71	76	128	186
Physical Working Conditions and Managerial Policy ..	780	668	114	135	894	803
Trade Unionism	97	142	17	17	114	159
Other	123	189	17	7	140	196
Total	1,057	1,109	219	235	1,276	1,344
			WORKPEOPLE INVOLVED.			
Wages, Hours and Leave ..	28,111	72,974	75,964	44,435	104,075	117,409
Physical Working Conditions and Managerial Policy ..	153,236	114,301	20,469	37,354	173,705	151,655
Trade Unionism	12,529	19,521	3,122	8,163	15,651	27,684
Other	45,102	89,896	93,168	21,948	138,270	111,844
Total	238,978	296,692	192,723	111,900	431,701	408,592
			WORKING DAYS LOST.			
Wages, Hours and Leave ..	32,562	159,702	1,415,900	178,324	1,448,462	338,026
Physical Working Conditions and Managerial Policy ..	346,027	194,274	97,466	165,109	443,493	359,383
Trade Unionism	22,044	26,222	15,536	41,058	37,580	67,280
Other	50,121	90,255	83,232	18,030	133,353	108,285
Total	450,754	470,453	1,612,134	402,521	2,062,888	872,974

6. **Results of Industrial Disputes.**—In previous issues of the Labour Report, tables were included showing analyses of the results of industrial disputes over a period of years. Under a new method of collection of the basic data, the information on which these analyses were based is no longer available for the majority of disputes and the compilation has therefore been discontinued.

7. **Methods of Settlement.**—(i) *General.*—Methods of settlement have been classified under the following six headings :—

(i) By negotiation between the parties, without the intervention or assistance of authorities constituted under State or Commonwealth industrial legislation.
(ii) Under the provisions of State industrial legislation.
(iii) Under the provisions of Commonwealth industrial legislation.
(iv) By filling places of workpeople on strike or locked out.
(v) By closing down establishments permanently.
(vi) By other methods.

Each of the first five methods indicates some definite action. The sixth, "Other Methods," is more or less indefinite, and is connected with "Other Causes". It relates mainly to resumptions of work following stoppages of short duration where the resumption is apparently spontaneous and not the result of negotiation or direction.

Disputes settled under the provisions of joint Commonwealth-State legislation affecting the coal-mining industry (*see* page 53) are now classified to (iii) above. Owing to various factors, principally the wording of the questionnaire formerly in use, this practice was not consistently followed in years prior to 1950.

As the tables refer only to industrial disputes involving stoppages of work, they do not reflect the relative importance of the work of authorities operating under State and Commonwealth legislation.

(ii) *Australia, 1913, 1939 and 1946 to 1951.*—Information for Australia for the years specified is given hereunder :—

Methods of Settlement of Industrial Disputes: Australia.(*a*)

Methods of Settlement.	1913.	1939.	1946.	1947.	1948.	1949.	1950.	1951.
NUMBER OF DISPUTES.								
By Private Negotiation	136	294	474	355	360	296	347	273
Under State Industrial Legislation	41	7	24	103	128	50	41	43
Under Commonwealth Industrial Legislation	4	6	19	36	11	54	120	181
By Filling Places of Workpeople on Strike or Locked out	13	1	3	1	1	..	..	..
By Closing down Establishment permanently	1	2	..	..	..	..	..	1
By other methods	13	106	314	487	638	448	764	843
Total	208	416	864	982	1,138	848	1,272	1,341
WORKPEOPLE INVOLVED.								
By Private Negotiation	26,529	82,684	143,942	68,031	91,654	44,878	74,813	46,241
Under State Industrial Legislation	19,279	5,354	7,207	71,772	47,668	27,003	6,314	24,721
Under Commonwealth Industrial Legislation	659	3,268	10,059	23,497	19,573	38,187	58,147	43,249
By Filling Places of Workpeople on Strike or Locked out	658	20	130	25	18	..	..	..
By closing down Establishment permanently	170	178	..	..	..	..	..	29
By other methods	2,988	61,326	182,903	163,812	157,617	154,326	292,050	294,081
Total	50,283	152,830	344,241	327,137	316,530	264,394	431,324	408,321

(*a*) *See* note on following page.

Methods of Settlement of Industrial Disputes: Australia(a)—*continued.*

Methods of Settlement.	1913.	1939.	1946.	1947.	1948.	1949.	1950.	1951.
				WORKING DAYS LOST.				
By Private Negotiation	120,735	298,652	604,882	204,906	281,979	246,519	431,027	128,735
Under State Industrial Legislation	409,640	39,013	129,220	394,369	350,150	146,000	40,269	158,219
Under Commonwealth Industrial Legislation	2,105	46,450	147,509	441,317	790,303	764,983	1,199,993	166,859
By Filling Places of Workpeople on Strike or Locked out	14,139	20	7,552	50	36	..	..	..
By Closing down Establishment permanently	20,400	3,892	..	..	..	..	..	203
By other methods	56,509	71,127	847,696	298,086	212,333	176,122	387,302	398,509
Total	623,528	459,154	1,736,859	1,338,728	1,634,801	1,333,624	2,058,591	852,525

(a) Differences between the total figures of this table and the corresponding totals of other tables in this Section are due to disputes which were incomplete at the end of the calendar year.

Changes in the incidence of industrial disputes in the coal-mining and stevedoring industries are reflected in the above series as variations in the relative numbers of disputes settled under different headings. An additional table has therefore been prepared to show separately the figures for these two industries and those for all other industries combined.

Methods of Settlement of Industrial Disputes: Australia.

Methods of Settlement.	Coal-mining and Stevedoring.		Other Industries.		All Industries.	
	1950.	1951.	1950.	1951.	1950.	1951.
			NUMBER OF DISPUTES.			
By Private Negotiation	259	194	88	79	347	273
Under State Industrial Legislation	4	5	37	38	41	43
Under Commonwealth Industrial Legislation	85	116	35	65	120	181
By Filling Places of Workpeople on Strike or Locked out	..	..	..	..	..	..
By Closing down Establishment permanently	..	1	..	..	..	1
By other methods	709	793	55	50	764	843
Total	1,057	1,109	215	232	1,272	1,341
			WORKPEOPLE INVOLVED.			
By Private Negotiation	49,147	25,263	25,666	20,978	74,813	46,241
Under State Industrial Legislation	487	865	5,827	23,856	6,314	24,721
Under Commonwealth Industrial Legislation	24,009	31,033	34,138	12,216	58,147	43,249
By Filling Places of Workpeople on Strike or Locked out	..	..	..	..	..	..
By Closing down Establishment permanently	..	29	..	..	..	29
By Other Methods	166,103	239,502	125,947	54,579	292,050	294,081
Total	239,746	296,692	191,578	111,629	431,324	408,321
			WORKING DAYS LOST.			
By Private Negotiation	99,835	44,310	331,192	84,425	431,027	128,735
Under State Industrial Legislation	1,030	3,919	39,239	154,300	40,269	158,219
Under Commonwealth Industrial Legislation	80,482	78,509	1,119,511	88,350	1,199,993	166,859
By Filling Places of Workpeople on Strike or Locked out	..	..	..	..	..	..
By Closing down Establishment permanently	..	203	..	..	..	203
By other methods	269,095	343,512	118,207	54,997	387,302	398,509
Total	450,442	470,453	1,608,149	382,072	2,058,591	852,525

§ 7. Industrial Accidents.

1. **General.**—In earlier issues of the Labour Report tables were published showing details of all industrial accidents. These were compiled from returns received from the Chief Inspectors of Factories, the Chief Inspectors of Machinery, the Boiler, Lift and Scaffolding Inspectors, and the Departments of Mines in the several States. Inquiries, however, revealed that, except in the case of mining accidents, the usefulness of these statistics was seriously impaired by lack of definition and coverage from State to State and it was decided to publish only the statistics of mining accidents until these defects could be remedied.

2. **Mining Accidents.**—(i) *Sources of Information.*—Information regarding mining accidents is obtained from the Departments of Mines in the respective States. Accidents occurring in crushing and ore dressing works on mine sites are included in the figures. Similar tables for earlier years included accidents in all smelting and metallurgical works. Quarries, brick and clay pits, etc., formerly included, have also been excluded from the following tables. These are not, therefore, directly comparable with those appearing in previous issues of the Labour Report.

(ii) *Classification.*—The following table gives particulars of mining accidents reported to the Mines Departments in each State in 1951.

Mining Accidents: Classification according to Causes—1951.(*a*)

Cause of Accident.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Aust'ralia.
A.—Fatal Accidents.							
METALLIFEROUS MINES.							
1. Below Ground—							
Accidents caused by Explosives ..	..	..	..	..	5	..	5
" " " Falls of Ground	2	..	..	..	2	..	4
" " " Falling down shafts, etc.	..	..	..	..	6	1	7
Other Accidents	1	1	1	..	2	..	5
2. Above Ground—(*b*)							
Accidents caused by machinery in motion	1	..	..	..	..	..	1
Other Accidents	3	..	..	..	..	1	4
3. Accidents in Batteries, Ore-dressing Works, etc., at Mines	1	..	..	..	..	..	1
COAL MINES.							
1. Below Ground—							
Accidents caused by Mine Explosions (Fire Damp, etc.)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Accidents caused by Explosives (Dynamite, etc.)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Accidents caused by Falls of Earth	3	..	3	..	2	..	8
Other Accidents	6	..	1	..	..	..	7
2. Above Ground—							
Accidents caused by machinery in motion	3	..	..	..	..	..	3
Other Accidents	2	..	..	..	..	..	2
Total	22	1	5	..	17	2	47

(*a*) *See* note on following page.

Mining Accidents : Classification according to Causes—1951.(*a*)—*continued.*

Cause of Accident.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Australia.
B.—Non-fatal Accidents Incapacitating for over 14 days.							
METALLIFEROUS MINES.							
1. **Below Ground**—							
Accidents caused by Explosives ..	..	..	1	..	1	..	2
" " " Falls of Ground	89	..	10	..	44	1	144
" " " Falling down shafts, etc.	7	..	2	..	13	..	22
Other Accidents	89	..	43	..	329	10	471
2. **Above Ground**— (*b*)							
Accidents caused by machinery in motion	2	..	6	..	20	4	32
Other Accidents	40	1	39	2	100	7	189
3. **Accidents in Batteries, Ore-dressing Works, etc., at Mines**	26	..	73	..	7	7	113
COAL MINES.							
1. **Below Ground**—							
Accidents caused by Mine Explosions (Fire Damp, etc.)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Accidents caused by Explosives (Dynamite, etc.)	12	2	2	..	..	..	16
Accidents caused by Falls of Earth	19	8	32	..	17	..	76
Other Accidents	33	10	117	1	102	5	268
2. **Above Ground**—							
Accidents caused by machinery in motion	6	..	2	1	5	..	14
Other Accidents	11	..	30	9	27	..	77
Total	334	21	357	13	665	34	1,424

(*a*) The figures relating to mining accidents may not in all cases correspond exactly with those published by the State Mines Departments, due to some lack of uniformity regarding the definition of a non-fatal accident. (*b*) Excludes quarries, brick and clay pits, etc.

During the year 1951, 36 fatal mining accidents were reported as having occurred below ground in Australia as compared with 11 above ground. Fatal accidents in metalliferous mines in 1951 numbered 27 as against 20 in coal-mines. The number of non-fatal mining accidents below ground was 997 and above ground 425.

CHAPTER V.—LABOUR ORGANIZATIONS.

§ 1. Labour Organizations in Australia.

1. **General.**—In Labour Report No. 2 an outline was given of the method adopted to ascertain the number of members of labour organizations in Australia, and tabulated results up to the end of 1912 were included. From the beginning of 1913 quarterly returns were obtained from a considerable number of trade unions, both as to membership and unemployment, and these were supplemented at the end of each year by special inquiries as to the membership of those unions which, owing to the nature of the callings and industries covered, were unable to furnish quarterly unemployment returns. The following pages show the general situation in regard to the trades union movement in Australia at present, and its development since 1939. The affairs of single unions are not disclosed in the published results and this has assisted in securing complete information. The Bureau is greatly indebted to the secretaries of trade unions for their cordial co-operation in supplying information.

In this chapter figures for the years 1948 to 1951 are compared with 1939. Particulars for earlier years will be found in preceding issues of the Labour Report.

2. **Trade Unions—Number and Membership, 1939 and 1948 to 1951.**—The following table gives particulars of the number of separate unions and the number of members at the end of the years 1939 and 1948 to 1951 :—

Trade Unions: Number and Membership.

Year.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	N. Terr.	A.C.T.	Aust.
NUMBER OF SEPARATE UNIONS.									
1939.. ..	200	149	114	117	141	79	4	15	(a) 380
1948.. ..	214	156	128	136	150	90	10	21	(a) 304
1949.. ..	212	150	125	138	152	97	12	21	(a) 349
1950.. ..	222	152	128	138	156	98	14	28	(a) 360
1951.. ..	225	156	128	137	152	101	17	29	(a) 359
NUMBER OF MEMBERS.									
1939.. ..	358,391	216,803	180,653	67,282	67,833	22,062	761	1,685	915,470
1948.. ..	596,867	370,886	238,597	119,082	87,834	36,767	2,293	3,482	1,455,808
1949.. ..	606,139	382,503	259,339	127,292	97,706	40,700	2,860	4,375	1,520,914
1950.. ..	642,145	406,317	262,586	137,504	103,582	45,044	2,438	5,728	1,605,344
1951.. ..	678,338	433,407	277,037	140,067	105,507	47,413	2,764	5,738	1,690,271
PERCENTAGE INCREASE IN MEMBERSHIP.(b)									
1939.. ..	3.3	0.8	6.5	8.7	0.1	4.8	5.6	9.6	3.4
1948.. ..	5.4	8.1	7.6	6.0	7.2	7.8	— 6.1	0.1	5.9
1949.. ..	1.6	3.1	8.7	6.9	11.2	10.7	24.7	25.6	5.2
1950.. ..	5.9	6.2	1.3	8.0	6.0	10.7	— 14.8	30.9	5.6
1951.. ..	5.6	6.7	5.5	1.9	1.9	5.3	13.4	0.2	5.3

(a) Without interstate duplication. (*See* letterpress below.) (b) On preceding year.
NOTE.—Minus sign (—) denotes decrease.

The types of trade unions in Australia vary greatly, and range from the small independent association to the large interstate organization, which, in its turn, may be a branch of an international body. Broadly speaking, there are four distinct classes of labour organizations :—(i) the local independent : (ii) the State ; (iii) the interstate ; and (iv) the Australasian or international. The schemes of organization of interstate or

federated unions vary greatly in character. In some unions the State organizations are bound together under a system of unification with centralized control, while in others the State units are practically independent and self-governing, the federal bond being loose and existing only for one or two specified purposes.

In the table just given, under the heading " Number of Separate Unions ", a union with members in a State is counted as one union within that State. The figures by States do not add to the Australian total (shown in the last column) because a union represented in more than one State is included in the figure for each State in which it is represented, but is counted only once in the Australian total.

Because of the difficulties involved, the collection of statistics relating to the " Number of Branches " of trade unions appearing in issues of this publication prior to No. 39 has been discontinued.

3. Trade Unions—Industrial Groups, 1939 and 1948 to 1951.—The following table gives the number and membership of trade unions in Australia in industrial groups at the end of the years 1948 to 1951 compared with 1939.

Trade Unions: Industrial Groups, Australia.

Industrial Group.	1939.	1948.	1949.	1950.	1951.
NUMBER OF SEPARATE UNIONS.(a)					
Manufacturing—					
I. Wood, Furniture, etc. ..	4	4	6	6	6
II. Engineering, Metal Works, etc.	22	19	16	16	15
III. Food, Drink, Tobacco, etc. ..	35	33	33	35	35
IV. Clothing, Textiles, etc. ..	12	7	6	6	6
V. Books, Printing, etc. ..	8	8	6	6	6
VI. Other Manufacturing ..	37	30	36	38	37
VII. Building	28	25	25	26	26
VIII. Mining, Quarrying, etc.	13	12	11	12	12
IX. Railway and Tramway Services ..	29	26	26	26	25
X. Other Land Transport	6	9	9	9	9
XI. Shipping, etc.	21	19	15	13	13
XII. Pastoral, Agricultural, etc. ..	5	3	4	4	4
XIII. Domestic, Hotels, etc.	18	15	14	14	14
XIV. Miscellaneous—					
(i) Banking, Insurance and Clerical	20	20	16	17	17
(ii) Public Service	50	59	54	56	58
(iii) Retail and Wholesale ..	8	10	11	12	12
(iv) Municipal, Sewerage, and Labouring	11	9	10	11	12
(v) Other Miscellaneous	53	56	51	53	52
Total	380	364	349	360	359
NUMBER OF MEMBERS.					
Manufacturing—					
I. Wood, Furniture, etc. ..	27,990	36,559	39,162	39,991	42,180
II. Engineering, Metal Works, etc.	99,731	217,165	226,952	234,715	242,800
III. Food, Drink, Tobacco, etc. ..	80,328	91,636	98,564	98,029	104,605
IV. Clothing, Textiles, etc. ..	68,847	121,175	123,039	127,559	131,873
V. Books, Printing, etc. ..	22,303	29,788	32,374	33,641	35,211
VI. Other Manufacturing ..	52,074	64,251	67,432	81,766	80,581
VII. Building	45,651	93,291	100,225	112,050	134,198
VIII. Mining, Quarrying, etc.	48,812	45,959	45,688	47,812	48,646
IX. Railway and Tramway Services ..	105,938	137,318	134,513	140,086	139,405
X. Other Land Transport	19,488	44,404	50,600	56,276	58,918
XI. Shipping, etc.	28,760	35,497	40,520	43,520	45,972
XII. Pastoral, Agricultural, etc. ..	40,276	48,631	52,687	56,735	59,911
XIII. Domestic, Hotels, etc.	13,177	37,657	36,914	30,334	34,485
XIV. Miscellaneous—					
(i) Banking, Insurance and Clerical	39,013	94,091	97,093	101,391	104,162
(ii) Public Service	89,848	164,723	165,762	174,097	183,541
(iii) Retail and Wholesale ..	36,290	48,960	52,528	53,685	60,847
(iv) Municipal, Sewerage and Labouring	46,552	61,154	62,761	70,635	75,926
(v) Other Miscellaneous	50,392	83,549	94,100	103,022	107,010
Total	915,470	1,455,808	1,520,914	1,605,344	1,690,271

(a) Without interstate duplication. *See* above..

4. **Trade Unions—Numbers of Male and Female Members and Ratio to Wage and Salary Earners.**—The following tables show the estimated percentages of wage and salary earners in employment who are members of trade unions. The data on which the numbers of wage and salary earners are based are described in Chapter IV. (page 114). As current estimates of wage and salary earners in employment do not include employees engaged in rural industry or female private domestic service the percentages have been calculated on figures obtained by adding to the current estimate (at the end of each year) the numbers of employees in rural industry and female private domestic service recorded at the Census of June, 1947. For this reason, and also because the membership of trade unions would include some persons not in employment, the percentages shown in the tables must be regarded as approximations.

(i) *States*, 1951. The table below shows for each State the numbers of males, females and persons who are members of trade unions and the estimated percentages as described above. In interpreting these, it should be noted that certain employees such as those in professional occupations may not be eligible for membership of a specific union, while others may not reside in a locality covered by a union devoted to their particular trade or occupation. The percentages are not directly comparable with those published in previous issues of the Labour Report.

Trade Unions: Number of Male and Female Members, and Ratio to Total Wage and Salary Earners, States, December, 1951.

Particulars.	N.S.W. (*a*)	Vic.	Q'land.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Australia. (*b*)
MALES.							
Number of Members of Unions ..	552,811	346,104	220,259	118,296	88,429	40,200	1,368,694
Estimated ratio of Members to Number of Wage and Salary Earners in Employment %	67	63	75	64	64	59	66
FEMALES.							
Number of Members of Unions ..	131,265	87,303	56,778	21,771	17,078	7,213	321,577
Estimated ratio of Members to Number of Wage and Salary Earners in Employment %	42	37	59	35	39	33	42
PERSONS.							
Number of Members of Unions ..	684,076	433,407	277,037	140,067	105,507	47,413	1,690,271
Estimated ratio of Members to Number of Wage and Salary Earners in Employment %	60	55	71	57	58	53	60

(*a*) Includes Australian Capital Territory. (*b*) Includes Northern Territory.

(ii) *Australia.*—Similar particulars for Australia as at the end of each of the years 1939 and 1948 to 1951 are given in the following table.

Trade Unions: Number of Male and Female Members, and Ratio to Total Wage and Salary Earners, Australia.

Particulars.	1939.	1948.	1949.	1950.	1951.
MALES.					
Number of Members of Unions	778,336	1,172,676	1,226,818	1,301,868	1,368,694
Estimated ratio of Members to Number of Wage and Salary Earners in Employment .. .. .. %	52	62	63	65	66

Trade Unions: Number of Male and Female Members, and Ratio to Total Wage and Salary Earners, Australia—*continued.*

Particulars.	1939.	1948.	1949.	1950.	1951.
FEMALES.					
Number of Members of Unions	137,134	283,132	294,096	303,476	321,577
Estimated ratio of Members to Number of Wage and Salary Earners in Employment .. .. .. %	24	40	41	40	42
PERSONS.					
Number of Members of Unions	915,470	1,455,808	1,520,914	1,605,344	1,690,271
Estimated ratio of Members to Number of Wage and Salary Earners in Employment .. .. .. %	44	56	57	58	60

5. **Trade Unions—Classification according to Number of Members, 1939 and 1948 to 1951.**—The following table shows the number and membership of all trade unions in Australia at the end of the years 1939 and 1948 to 1951 inclusive, classified according to size. In this table interstate unions are counted once only :—

Trade Unions: Classification according to Number of Members, Australia.

Classification.	10,000 and over.	5,000 and under 10,000.	2,000 and under 5,000.	1,000 and under 2,000.	500 and under 1,000.	300 and under 500.	200 and under 300.	100 and under 200.	50 and under 100.	Under 50.	Total.
NUMBER OF UNIONS.											
1939 ..	27	14	41	43	52	28	30	52	41	52	380
1948 ..	34	26	41	43	47	33	24	37	32	47	364
1949 ..	37	21	38	41	46	33	24	38	29	42	349
1950 ..	38	24	43	46	50	27	19	43	20	44	360
1951 ..	40	22	44	45	49	31	18	40	26	44	359
MEMBERSHIP.											
1939 ..	568,624	87,077	134,204	59,283	36,776	10,578	7,483	7,225	2,655	1,565	915,470
1948 ..	1019035	188,486	128,291	59,913	32,980	12,730	5,829	4,748	2,380	1,416	1,455,808
1949 ..	1112560	157,892	117,007	60,706	39,816	15,687	8,492	5,178	2,225	1,351	1,520,914
1950 ..	1178056	171,658	132,585	62,996	35,493	10,458	4,876	5,905	1,975	1,342	1,605,344
1951 ..	1263564	156,866	143,937	64,632	35,417	12,274	4,648	5,504	2,017	1,412	1,690,271
PROPORTION OF TOTAL MEMBERSHIP. (PER CENT.)											
1939 ..	62.1	9.5	14.7	6.5	4.0	1.1	0.8	0.8	0.3	0.2	100.0
1948 ..	70.0	12.9	8.8	4.1	2.3	0.9	0.4	0.3	0.2	0.1	100.0
1949 ..	73.1	10.4	7.7	4.0	2.6	1.0	0.6	0.3	0.2	0.1	100.0
1950 ..	73.4	10.7	8.3	3.9	2.2	0.6	0.3	0.4	0.1	0.1	100.0
1951 ..	74.8	9.3	8.5	3.8	2.1	0.7	0.3	0.3	0.1	0.1	100.0

In the last part of the preceding table the percentage which the membership in each group bears to the total membership of all groups is given. The tendency towards closer organization is evidenced by the fact that although membership of trade unions has increased since 1912 by 295 per cent., the number of unions having less than 2,000 members has considerably decreased, namely, from 360 to 253. In 1951, 7.4 per cent. of trade union members belonged to unions having less than 2,000 members as compared with 13.7 per cent. in 1939 and 28.1 per cent. in 1912.

6. **Interstate or Federated Trade Unions.**—The following table gives particulars regarding number and membership of interstate or federated

trade unions having branches in two or more States. The figures include interstate unions registered under the Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act, as well as federated unions which are not so registered :—

Interstate or Federated Trade Unions: Number and Membership.(a)

Particulars.		Unions Operating in—					Total.
		2 States.	3 States.	4 States.	5 States.	6 States.	
Number of Unions	1939 ..	19	11	20	24	42	116
	1948 ..	20	15	11	33	59	138
	1949 ..	13	17	11	39	58	138
	1950 ..	13	13	17	38	59	140
	1951 ..	12	15	15	38	60	140
Number of Members	1939 ..	30,888	33,319	20,664	209,369	361,884	756,124
	1948 ..	46,980	37,813	121,989	291,544	775,716	1,274,042
	1949 ..	32,473	44,089	65,219	437,374	774,440	1,353,595
	1950 ..	41,369	41,000	121,180	395,012	832,918	1,431,479
	1951 ..	36,437	47,636	93,109	442,507	882,229	1,501,918

(a) Certain unions in this group have, in addition to branches in the States, branches in the Northern Territory and in the Australian Capital Territory.

The number of organizations operating in two or more States has increased from 72 in 1912 to 140 in 1951, and the percentage of the membership of such organizations on the total membership of all organizations has risen from 65 per cent. to 89 per cent. during the same period.

7. **Central Labour Organizations.**—In each of the capital cities, as well as in a number of other industrial centres, delegate organizations, consisting of representatives from a group of trade unions, have been established. Their revenue is raised by means of a *per capita* tax on the members of each affiliated union. In the majority of the towns where such central organizations exist, most of the local unions are affiliated with the central organization, which is usually known as the Labour or the Trades Hall Council, or the Labour Federation. In Western Australia a unified system of organization extends over the industrial centres throughout the State, and there is a provincial branch of the Australian Labour Party, having a central council and executive, and metropolitan and branch district councils to which the local bodies are affiliated. The central council, on which all district councils are represented, meets periodically. In the other States, however, the organization is not so close, and though provision usually exists in the rules of the central council in the capital city of each State for the organization of district councils, or for the representation on the central council of the local councils in the smaller industrial centres of the State, the councils in each State are, as a matter of fact, independent bodies. The following table gives the number of metropolitan and district or local labour councils, together with the number of unions and branches of unions affiliated therewith, in each State at the end of the years 1939 and 1948 to 1951.

Central Labour Organizations: Number, and Branch Unions Affiliated.

Particulars.		N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S.A	W.A.	Tas.	N. Ter.	A.C.T.	Australia.
No. of Councils	1939 ..	3	5	6	2	8	2	..	1	27
	1948 ..	8	9	12	7	9	3	..	1	49
	1949 ..	8	9	13	6	9	5	..	1	51
	1950 ..	10	9	13	6	10	5	..	1	54
	1951 ..	11	9	12	6	10	5	1	1	55
No. of Unions and Branch Unions Affiliated	1939 ..	103	179	79	50	210	59	..	9	689
	1948 ..	268	274	151	141	314	90	..	19	1,257
	1949 ..	246	274	143	130	327	99	..	21	1,240
	1950 ..	248	272	152	134	434	97	..	21	1,358
	1951 ..	272	276	141	128	427	96	3	22	1,365

The figures regarding number of unions do not necessarily represent separate unions, since the branches of a large union may be affiliated with the local trades councils in the several towns in which they are represented.

Between the trade union and the central organization of unions may be classed certain State or district councils organized on trade lines and composed of delegates from separate unions whose member's interests are closely connected by reason of their occupations. Delegate councils of bakers, bread carters and mill employees, or of unions connected directly or indirectly with the metal trades, or with the building trades, may be so classed.

A Central Labour Organization, called the Australasian Council of Trade Unions, came into being during 1927. The Council was created to function on behalf of the Trade Unions of Australia, and was founded at an All-Australian Trade Union Congress held in Melbourne in May, 1927. The Australasian Council is based on the Metropolitan Trades and Labour Councils in each State, such bodies having the right to appoint two representatives to act on the Executive of the Council. In addition to the representatives from the Metropolitan Councils, the Executive consists of four officers, viz., the President, two Vice-Presidents, and a Secretary, who are elected by and from the All-Australian Trade Union Congress.

The objective of the Council is the socialization of industry, i.e., production, distribution and exchange. The methods to be adopted are:—(*a*) The closer organization of the workers by the transformation of the Australian Trade Union Movement from the craft to an industrial basis by the establishment of one union in each industry; (*b*) the consolidation of the Australasian Labour Movement with the object of unified control, administration, and action; (*c*) the centralized control of industrial disputes; and (*d*) educational propaganda among unions.

The A.C.T.U. is the first interstate body in Australia with authority to deal with industrial matters of an interstate character affecting the trade union movement generally. It is also the body responsible for submitting the names of suitable persons from which the Commonwealth Government selects the Australian Workers' delegate to the Annual International Labour Conference.

8. Organizations Registered under the Conciliation and Arbitration Act.—Under Part VI. of the Conciliation and Arbitration Act any employer or association of employers in any industry who has employed not less than 100 employees during six months preceding application for registration, and any association of not less than 100 employees in any industry may be registered.* Registered unions include both interstate associations and associations operating within one State only.

At the end of 1951 the number of employers' organizations registered under the provisions of the Act was 54. The number of unions registered at the end of 1951 was 148, with a membership of approximately 1,399,110 representing 83 per cent. of the total membership of all trade unions in Australia.

* Under the Arbitration (Public Service) Act an association of less than 100 employees may be registered as an organization, provided that its members comprise at least three-fifths of all persons engaged in that industry in the Service. Such organizations are included in the figures shown in the paragraph following.

§ 2. International Labour Organization.

1. General.—The International Labour Organization originated in the Peace Treaty of 1919 which made provision for the holding of International Labour Conferences and the institution of the International Labour Office. In the inter-war period, the International Labour Organization was an autonomous associate of the League of Nations, and in 1946 became the first of the specialized agencies of the United Nations. Under the terms of agreement, the United Nations recognizes the International Labour Organization as a specialized agency having responsibility in the field defined by its Constitution which embraces labour conditions, industrial relations, employment organization, social security, and other aspects of social policy. The Organization has three basic parts. These are the International Labour Conference, its highest authority, which, as a rule, meets annually; the Governing Body, its executive council which usually meets four times a year; and the International Labour Office which provides the secretariat of the Organization. The Conference is composed of national delegations comprising two government delegates and one delegate each of employers and workers, together with their advisers. The Governing Body comprises the representatives of sixteen governments, eight worker members and eight employer members. Particulars are given in previous Labour Reports of the proceedings at International Labour Conferences up to the 34th Session which opened in Geneva on 6th June, 1951.

2. **The 35th Session.**—The 35th Session of the International Labour Conference was held in Geneva from 4th to 28th June, 1952.

The Australian Delegation consisted of:—Government Delegates: Dr. Ian G. Sharp (Assistant Secretary, Department of Labour and National Service); Mr. Patrick Shaw (Australian Permanent Delegate to the European Office of the United Nations); Adviser and Substitute Delegate: Mr. K. C. McKenzie (Department of Labour and National Service); Employers' Delegate: Mr. L. C. Burne (Vice-President Australian Council of Employers' Federation); Workers' Delegate: Mr. J. N. Thom (General Secretary, Electrical Trades Union).

The Conference adopted conventions and recommendations on holidays with pay for agricultural workers and the protection of maternity. It studied the situation of aliens and migrant workers in relation to social security and requested the Governing Body to consider appropriate measures for establishing an international instrument dealing with the question.

The Conference also discussed the independence of the trade union movement, assistance to under-developed countries and the means to ensure the effective prosecution in all countries of the aims and objectives of the International Labour Organization in conditions of freedom and security.

3. **Governing Body.**—The Australian Government as a deputy member was represented at the 116th to 119th Sessions of the Governing Body which met in Geneva during 1951–52 by Mr. Patrick Shaw.

At the 120th Session, meeting in Geneva during November, 1952, Australia was represented by Mr. J. D. L. Hood, Australian Ambassador at Bonn (Government representative), Mr. A. Monk (Workers' representative) and Commander Lionel Robinson (Employers' representative).

Mr. Hood, Mr. Monk and Commander Robinson also represented Australia on the International Labour Organization Asian Advisory Committee which met in Geneva immediately before the 120th Session of the Governing Body.

APPENDIX.

SECTION I.

Sydney : Average Retail Prices(a) of Chief Food and Groceries Items during each Month of the Year, 1951.

Article.	Unit.	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.	Average, 1951.
Groceries, &c.—		d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.
Bread	2 lb.	9.28	9.28	9.28	9.28	9.28	9.28	9.28	9.28	9.28	9.28	10.83	10.83	9.54
Flour, ordinary ..	,,	7.00	7.00	6.94	7.06	7.06	7.13	7.25	7.44	7.44	7.50	7.86	8.07	7.31
,, self-raising ..	,,	12.00	12.00	12.15	12.45	12.70	13.80	13.80	13.95	13.95	13.95	13.95	14.90	13.30
Tea	lb.	46.00	46.00	46.00	46.00	46.00	46.00	46.00	46.00	46.00	46.00	47.00	47.00	46.17
Sugar	,,	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	6.50	6.50	6.50	6.50	6.50	6.50	5.75
Sago	,,	9.65	10.20	11.55	14.75	14.85	15.45	15.45	15.80	16.00	16.10	16.00	16.55	14.36
Jam, plum ..	1½ lb.	23.15	23.70	23.45	23.60	23.55	23.55	24.05	24.25	24.75	24.85	25.45	25.45	24.15
Golden Syrup ..	2 lb.	9.05	9.05	9.05	9.05	9.05	9.05	11.00	11.60	11.60	12.05	11.95	11.95	10.37
Oats, flaked ..	lb.	8.15	8.15	8.15	8.50	11.50	11.50	11.40	11.40	11.50	11.50	11.50	11.50	10.40
Raisins, seeded ..	,,	21.13	22.40	27.20	27.00	27.10	27.10	27.10	27.10	28.13	28.38	28.60	28.60	26.65
Currants	,,	16.78	18.11	19.88	20.17	20.22	20.56	20.86	20.86	20.86	20.93	21.64	21.07	20.16
Apricots, dried ..	,,	32.50	32.50	46.50	46.75	47.63	47.63	47.63	47.63	47.63	51.13	50.60	50.60	45.73
Peaches, canned ..	30 oz.	21.50	21.50	21.67	25.56	26.33	26.31	27.06	26.90	26.90	26.95	27.00	27.00	25.39
Pears, canned ..	,,	22.95	22.90	23.08	26.86	27.50	27.50	28.50	28.39	28.39	28.39	28.50	28.50	26.79
Potatoes	7 lb.	28.00	28.00	28.00	28.00	31.50	31.50	31.50	31.50	36.75	43.08	42.00	42.00	33.49
Onions, brown ..	lb.	6.00	6.00	6.00	5.50	6.00	15.00	22.40	29.20	25.25	24.00	14.57	9.56	14.12
Soap	,,	10.29	10.37	10.77	10.96	11.00	11.59	11.67	11.67	11.67	11.84	11.88	13.00	11.39
Kerosene	quart	7.41	7.50	7.60	7.81	7.79	7.80	7.80	7.80	7.80	7.80	7.99	8.16	7.77
Dairy Produce—														
Butter, factory ..	lb.	26.00	26.00	26.00	26.00	26.00	26.00	26.00	26.00	32.00	32.00	37.50	37.50	28.92
Cheese, mild ..	,,	19.50	19.50	19.50	19.50	19.50	19.50	19.50	19.50	19.50	23.91	27.06	27.22	21.14
Eggs, new laid ..	doz.	47.15	49.05	49.05	53.05	53.05	53.10	53.05	53.05	53.05	53.05	53.05	65.15	52.90
Bacon, rashers ..	lb.	49.11	49.06	49.17	49.17	50.00	54.17	54.39	54.61	55.17	67.13	69.28	69.28	55.88
Milk, condensed ..	tin	14.50	14.50	14.65	14.90	14.90	16.00	16.00	16.00	16.00	16.00	16.90	18.45	15.73
,, fresh ..	quart	12.50	12.50	12.50	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	16.00	16.00	13.96
Meat—		March Quarter.			June Quarter.			September Quarter.			December Quarter.			
Beef, sirloin ..	lb.	26.72			27.86			30.11			35.55			30.06
,, rib	,,	18.87			20.06			20.11			23.67			20.68
,, steak, rump ..	,,	36.48			38.25			43.50			48.54			41.69
,, ,, chuck ..	,,	19.93			20.63			23.36			24.98			22.23
,, sausages ..	,,	15.10			15.77			18.46			19.18			17.13
Beef (corned) silverside	,,	22.55			22.70			25.88			30.13			25.32
,, ,, brisket	,,	18.19			18.74			21.13			24.46			20.63
Mutton, leg ..	,,	16.41			19.09			27.81			25.57			22.22
,, forequarter	,,	11.09			12.61			22.60			20.23			16.63
,, loin ..	,,	19.51			22.17			30.36			28.98			25.26
,, chops, loin	,,	19.48			22.24			31.02			29.07			25.45
,, ,, leg	,,	19.29			22.14			30.88			29.07			25.35
Pork, leg	,,	39.53			40.90			45.60			50.07			44.03
,, loin ..	,,	40.00			42.20			46.67			51.27			45.04
,, chops ..	,,	40.53			42.50			47.23			51.93			45.55

(a) In some cases the averages shown are price relatives.

Melbourne : Average Retail Prices(*a*) of Chief Food and Groceries Items during each Month of the Year, 1951.

Article.	Unit.	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.	Average, 1951.
Groceries, &c.—		*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*
Bread	2 lb.	9.50	9.50	9.50	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	11.50	11.50	10.12
Flour, ordinary ..	,,	6.05	6.35	6.50	6.50	6.50	6.50	6.55	6.70	6.85	6.85	7.00	6.95	6.61
,, self-raising ..	,,	11.40	12.00	12.10	12.10	12.00	12.00	12.00	12.00	12.89	12.94	12.75	12.78	12.32
Tea	lb.	46.00	45.75	46.05	46.00	46.00	46.00	46.00	46.00	46.00	46.00	47.00	47.00	46.15
Sugar	,,	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	6.50	6.50	6.50	6.50	6.50	6.50	5.75
Sago	,,	8.65	8.72	10.38	12.67	14.11	14.94	15.17	15.17	15.17	15.15	15.15	15.56	13.40
Jam, plum ..	1½ lb.	17.00	18.55	19.05	19.35	19.35	19.45	19.55	19.55	19.55	19.90	21.40	21.50	19.52
Golden Syrup ..	2 lb.	9.55	9.55	9.55	9.55	9.56	9.56	9.88	10.93	12.00	12.00	12.00	12.11	10.52
Oats, flaked ..	lb.	6.61	6.79	7.08	7.92	8.07	9.42	9.42	10.08	10.29	10.38	10.83	10.83	8.98
Raisins, seeded ..	,,	20.40	22.40	27.33	27.71	27.86	27.86	28.00	27.71	27.71	27.83	27.78	27.89	26.71
Currants	,,	15.29	16.81	16.75	18.75	19.81	19.81	20.13	20.69	20.69	20.63	20.69	20.67	19.23
Apricots, dried ..	,,	25.17	25.17	33.46	39.21	46.00	47.00	47.00	46.33	45.67	46.00	46.33	46.33	41.14
Peaches, canned ..	30 oz.	20.70	20.75	21.06	22.58	26.00	26.00	26.00	26.00	26.00	26.00	26.05	26.10	24.44
Pears, canned ..	,,	22.00	21.95	22.07	23.42	26.00	26.00	26.00	26.07	26.06	26.15	26.20	26.20	24.84
Potatoes	7 lb.	26.50	27.50	26.83	28.00	28.00	28.00	28.00	28.00	29.12	36.36	44.92	42.00	31.10
Onions, brown ..	lb.	5.00	5.25	5.10	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	9.00	9.00	18.00	18.00	9.00	8.20
Soap	,,	11.56	11.56	11.56	11.56	11.56	12.44	12.44	12.44	12.44	12.62	13.15	14.04	12.28
Kerosene	quart	7.38	7.43	7.73	7.78	7.91	7.97	7.97	7.97	7.97	7.97	8.24	8.35	7.89
Dairy Produce—														
Butter, factory ..	lb.	26.35	26.35	26.35	26.35	26.35	26.35	26.35	26.35	37.95	37.95	37.95	37.95	30.22
Cheese, mild ..	,,	18.50	18.50	18.50	18.50	18.50	18.50	18.50	18.50	23.00	26.63	26.63	26.63	20.91
Eggs, new laid ..	doz.	45.10	47.00	48.80	53.80	53.90	53.90	53.90	53.90	53.90	50.90	50.90	60.00	52.17
Bacon, rashers ..	lb.	44.63	48.88	49.38	49.75	50.00	50.00	50.00	52.63	53.13	54.00	66.69	67.00	53.01
Milk, condensed ..	tin	15.00	15.00	15.00	15.00	15.00	16.45	16.50	16.50	16.50	17.40	17.20	17.95	16.12
,, fresh ..	quart	11.40	13.25	13.25	13.25	14.25	14.25	14.25	14.25	14.25	14.25	14.25	14.25	13.76
Meat—			March Quarter.			June Quarter.			September Quarter.			December Quarter.		
Beef, sirloin ..	lb.		25.37			28.06			30.91			32.20		29.14
,, rib	,,		22.73			24.91			27.65			28.20		25.87
,, steak, rump ..	,,		36.15			39.09			41.62			43.20		40.02
,, ,, chuck ..	,,		19.27			22.37			24.00			25.23		22.72
,, sausages ..	,,		16.08			17.61			19.00			19.81		18.13
Beef (corned) silver-side	,,		25.05			27.41			29.94			31.74		28.54
,, ,, brisket	,,		18.21			20.54			22.00			23.17		20.98
Mutton, leg ..	,,		19.38			23.58			26.96			25.24		23.79
,, forequarter	,,		12.34			16.40			20.72			17.59		16.76
,, loin ..	,,		19.33			25.45			26.39			24.92		24.02
,, chops, loin	,,		19.52			24.45			27.28			26.07		24.33
,, ,, leg	,,		20.32			24.64			27.37			25.94		24.57
Pork, leg	,,		37.57			37.97			41.24			45.55		40.58
,, loin ..	,,		38.15			38.89			42.36			46.50		41.48
,, chops ..	,,		38.88			39.71			42.76			46.40		41.94

(*a*) In some cases the averages shown are price relatives.

Brisbane : Average Retail Prices(*a*) of Chief Food and Groceries Items during each Month of the Year, 1951.

Article.	Unit.	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.	Average, 1951.
Groceries, &c.—		*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*
Bread	2 lb.	9.00	9.50	9.50	9.50	9.50	9.50	9.50	9.50	10.00	10.50	10.50	10.50	9.75
Flour, ordinary ..	,,	5.73	5.86	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.10	6.95	7.00	6.14
,, self-raising ..	,,	11.77	12.09	12.82	12.82	12.80	12.80	12.90	12.90	13.20	13.25	13.85	14.35	12.96
Tea	lb.	45.32	45.32	45.32	45.32	45.25	45.25	45.25	45.25	45.25	45.25	46.05	46.25	45.42
Sugar	,,	4.96	4.96	4.96	4.96	4.96	4.96	6.47	6.47	6.47	6.47	6.47	6.47	5.71
Sago	,,	9.14	9.09	9.27	9.95	10.83	12.95	13.90	13.75	14.75	13.90	14.05	13.85	12.12
Jam, plum ..	1½ lb.	16.82	16.68	17.32	18.23	18.55	19.35	19.65	20.15	20.30	20.90	21.70	21.80	19.29
Golden Syrup ..	2 lb.	8.91	8.95	8.95	8.95	8.95	8.95	9.90	10.85	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	9.87
Oats, flaked ..	lb.	8.50	8.50	8.50	8.50	8.50	9.50	12.00	12.50	12.50	13.00	13.00	14.00	10.75
Raisins, seeded ..	,,	20.13	20.13	24.21	24.25	24.25	24.25	24.25	24.67	24.67	24.67	24.67	25.06	23.77
Currants	,,	16.38	16.38	17.25	17.25	19.00	19.00	19.00	19.00	19.00	19.00	19.00	19.50	18.31
Apricots, dried ..	,,	27.00	27.00	35.89	44.00	44.00	44.00	48.00	48.00	48.00	48.00	48.00	48.00	42.49
Peaches, canned ..	30 oz.	23.64	24.00	24.00	24.00	28.00	28.37	27.64	28.57	28.50	28.20	28.20	28.39	26.79
Pears, canned ..	,,	24.38	24.38	24.38	24.38	27.67	26.67	27.00	29.00	29.00	29.00	29.17	29.64	27.06
Potatoes	7 lb.	24.82	26.45	26.45	27.86	28.00	29.35	29.95	30.11	31.31	39.27	30.30	30.30	29.51
Onions, brown ..	lb.	7.00	7.55	7.45	7.44	8.79	13.17	17.50	25.92	18.63	19.44	9.00	5.83	12.31
Soap	,,	10.49	10.49	10.49	10.49	10.50	11.20	11.20	11.20	11.20	11.33	11.57	12.90	11.09
Kerosene	quart	6.93	7.00	7.06	7.19	7.22	7.22	7.23	7.23	7.19	7.19	7.55	7.62	7.22
Dairy Produce—														
Butter, factory ..	lb.	25.91	25.91	25.91	25.91	25.90	25.90	25.95	25.95	31.95	31.95	37.45	37.45	28.84
Cheese, mild ..	,,	17.95	18.00	18.00	18.00	17.95	18.00	18.05	18.05	22.50	22.50	26.00	26.05	20.09
Eggs, new laid ..	doz.	42.00	42.00	44.00	44.00	44.00	46.00	46.00	46.00	46.00	46.00	46.00	50.00	45.17
Bacon, rashers ..	lb.	37.41	37.41	37.41	37.41	38.95	41.50	41.80	44.10	47.15	48.55	61.05	57.85	44.22
Milk, condensed ..	tin	14.73	14.75	14.75	14.78	14.78	15.56	15.95	15.83	15.83	15.92	16.83	18.13	15.65
,, fresh ..	quart	10.60	10.60	10.60	11.95	11.95	11.95	11.95	11.95	12.95	12.95	12.95	12.95	11.95
Meat—		March Quarter.			June Quarter.			September Quarter.			December Quarter.			
Beef, sirloin ..	lb.	21.10			21.69			23.12			31.67			24.40
,, rib	,,	14.00			14.34			15.74			22.00			16.52
,, steak, rump ..	,,	27.10			28.17			29.09			38.09			30.61
,, ,, chuck ..	,,	14.05			14.49			15.91			22.33			16.70
,, sausages ..	,,	12.00			12.53			13.65			18.06			14.06
Beef (corned) silver-side	,,	18.00			18.65			19.98			28.24			21.22
,, ,, brisket	,,	14.10			14.22			15.83			23.54			16.92
Mutton, leg ..	,,	15.89			16.72			18.34			22.70			18.41
,, forequarter	,,	10.81			12.13			13.91			17.15			13.50
,, loin ..	,,	13.92			16.40			17.17			22.92			17.60
,, chops, loin	,,	16.32			17.02			18.48			23.19			18.75
,, ,, leg	,,	15.28			16.83			18.28			22.77			18.29
Pork, leg	,,	35.07			35.67			38.06			43.88			38.17
,, loin ..	,,	34.17			35.11			38.14			43.58			37.75
,, chops ..	,,	34.63			35.67			38.62			43.70			38.16

(*a*) In some cases the averages shown are price relatives.

Adelaide : Average Retail Prices(*a*) of Chief Food and Groceries Items during each Month of the Year, 1951.

Article.	Unit.	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.	Average, 1951.
Groceries, &c.—		*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*
Bread	2 lb.	9.00	9.00	9.00	9.00	9.00	9.00	9.50	9.50	9.50	9.50	9.50	10.50	9.33
Flour, ordinary ..	,,	5.80	6.50	6.50	6.50	6.55	6.55	6.55	6.60	6.65	6.65	6.65	6.85	6.53
,, self-raising ..	,,	10.20	10.28	10.35	10.40	10.50	10.75	10.75	11.00	11.15	11.20	11.20	11.30	10.76
Tea	lb.	46.00	46.11	46.00	46.00	46.00	46.00	46.00	46.00	46.00	46.00	47.00	47.00	46.18
Sugar	,,	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	6.50	6.50	6.50	6.50	6.50	6.50	5.75
Sago	,,	10.20	10.50	11.30	16.20	16.35	16.75	17.05	17.05	17.78	17.50	17.50	17.50	15.47
Jam, plum ..	1½ lb.	19.25	17.78	19.30	19.55	19.50	19.55	19.55	19.55	19.55	19.55	19.55	19.55	19.35
Golden Syrup ..	2 lb.	9.50	9.50	9.50	9.50	9.50	9.50	9.75	11.50	12.05	12.05	12.05	12.05	10.54
Oats, flaked ..	lb.	7.96	7.92	7.92	8.90	9.04	9.88	10.09	10.46	10.67	10.67	10.67	10.75	9.58
Raisins, seeded ..	,,	20.17	21.10	21.20	25.00	25.50	27.42	27.43	27.36	27.39	27.39	27.39	27.39	25.39
Currants	,,	16.20	16.44	16.90	19.70	20.40	20.40	20.40	20.40	20.45	20.45	20.45	20.45	19.39
Apricots, dried ..	,,	29.25	29.25	38.88	45.56	45.50	45.50	45.50	45.50	44.56	44.56	44.56	44.56	41.93
Peaches, canned ..	30 oz.	20.42	20.42	20.42	25.06	25.05	25.05	25.05	25.05	25.00	25.00	25.06	25.20	23.90
Pears, canned ..	,,	21.50	21.50	21.50	26.45	26.50	26.50	26.50	26.50	26.50	26.50	26.50	26.60	25.25
Potatoes	7 lb.	24.21	28.00	28.00	28.00	28.00	32.20	31.50	31.50	31.50	45.50	33.33	36.86	31.55
Onions, brown ..	lb.	7.88	7.33	7.00	7.17	7.80	9.83	15.80	18.00	30.00	30.00	13.50	12.00	13.86
Soap	,,	10.67	10.67	10.67	10.67	10.67	11.33	11.33	11.33	11.33	11.33	11.53	13.00	11.21
Kerosene	quart	6.77	6.89	6.92	7.04	7.13	7.13	7.13	7.13	7.13	7.13	7.39	7.43	7.10
Dairy Produce—														
Butter, factory ..	lb.	26.00	26.00	26.00	26.00	26.00	26.00	26.00	26.00	37.50	37.50	37.50	37.50	29.83
Cheese, mild ..	,,	17.94	17.94	17.94	17.94	17.94	17.94	18.06	18.06	22.30	25.95	26.10	26.10	20.35
Eggs, new laid ..	doz.	43.45	46.00	47.45	49.45	51.50	51.45	51.45	45.50	44.50	44.50	44.50	54.40	47.85
Bacon, rashers ..	lb.	41.85	44.56	44.95	45.50	46.65	46.60	46.60	49.10	49.10	49.10	61.75	61.75	48.96
Milk, condensed ..	tin	13.90	13.90	13.90	13.90	13.90	15.45	15.45	15.40	15.40	16.95	16.95	18.30	15.28
,, fresh ..	quart	11.00	11.00	11.00	13.00	13.00	13.00	13.00	13.00	13.00	13.00	13.00	13.00	12.50
Meat—		March Quarter.			June Quarter.			September Quarter.			December Quarter.			
Beef, sirloin ..	lb.	19.50			19.70			23.23			25.05			21.87
,, rib	,,	16.50			16.82			20.63			22.77			19.18
,, steak, rump ..	,,	30.00			30.47			37.00			39.32			34.20
,, ,, chuck ..	,,	18.00			18.33			22.51			24.27			20.78
,, sausages ..	,,	12.00			12.44			14.55			15.56			13.64
Beef (corned) silverside	,,	21.07			22.74			26.72			28.33			24.72
,, ,, brisket	,,	16.00			17.00			20.97			22.80			19.19
Mutton, leg ..	,,	18.77			25.82			24.26			23.66			23.13
,, forequarter	,,	10.02			14.86			13.45			15.00			13.33
,, loin ..	,,	16.43			23.63			22.55			23.17			21.45
,, chops, loin	,,	17.25			21.81			22.42			24.31			21.45
,, ,, leg	,,	18.00			23.64			23.21			24.29			22.29
Pork, leg	,,	34.63			37.50			42.93			48.18			40.81
,, loin ..	,,	34.80			38.00			43.37			48.85			41.26
,, chops ..	,,	34.87			38.07			43.86			48.99			41.45

(*a*) In some cases the averages shown are price relatives.

Perth : Average Retail Prices(*a*) of Chief Food and Groceries Items during each Month of the Year, 1951.

Article.	Unit.	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.	Average, 1951.
Groceries, &c.—		*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*
Bread	2 lb.	9.00	9.00	9.00	9.00	9.50	9.50	9.50	9.50	9.50	9.50	10.00	11.00	9.50
Flour, ordinary	,,	6.10	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.10	6.10	6.10	7.60	6.17
,, self-raising	,,	12.75	12.80	12.85	12.95	12.95	12.95	12.95	12.93	13.00	13.35	13.50	13.50	13.04
Tea	lb.	46.00	46.00	46.00	46.00	46.00	46.00	46.00	46.00	46.00	46.00	46.90	46.95	46.15
Sugar	,,	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	6.50	6.50	6.50	6.50	6.50	6.50	5.75
Sago	,,	9.20	10.30	12.10	13.55	14.61	17.00	16.70	16.15	16.15	16.15	16.30	16.85	14.59
Jam, plum	1½ lb.	18.25	18.60	21.05	21.45	21.50	21.50	21.83	23.25	23.80	24.10	24.39	24.39	22.01
Golden Syrup	2 lb.	10.05	10.05	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	11.80	13.00	13.00	13.00	13.00	11.16
Oats, flaked	lb.	7.75	7.83	7.80	7.75	8.00	9.25	9.86	9.86	9.42	9.60	10.13	9.67	8.91
Raisins, seeded	,,	23.20	26.75	27.89	27.89	28.92	28.92	34.00	33.94	32.20	33.00	31.71	31.30	29.98
Currants	,,	17.22	17.30	20.44	20.21	20.17	20.69	20.72	21.72	21.44	21.44	21.44	21.30	20.34
Apricots, dried	,,	36.00	36.00	48.00	48.00	48.00	48.00	48.00	48.50	48.00	48.00	49.50	49.50	46.29
Peaches, canned	30 oz.	23.33	23.75	23.50	23.50	23.50	23.50	23.50	27.00	30.00	30.00	30.00	30.13	25.98
Pears, canned	,,	25.00	25.00	25.50	25.00	27.00	27.00	27.00	28.25	31.50	31.60	31.50	31.44	27.98
Potatoes	7 lb.	20.00	20.05	20.35	20.50	22.00	22.00	22.05	22.06	22.06	22.67	23.56	24.17	21.79
Onions, brown	lb.	4.00	4.45	4.45	4.50	6.05	6.00	6.00	14.00	12.70	13.50	6.00	5.89	7.29
Soap	,,	11.26	11.26	11.26	11.26	11.26	12.00	12.00	12.00	12.00	12.00	12.33	13.50	11.84
Kerosene	quart	9.16	9.25	9.32	9.42	9.53	9.58	9.60	9.59	9.60	9.60	10.55	11.30	9.71
Dairy Produce—														
Butter, factory	lb.	26.50	26.50	26.50	26.50	26.50	26.50	26.50	26.50	38.00	38.00	38.00	38.00	30.33
Cheese, mild	,,	21.00	21.00	21.00	22.00	22.00	22.00	22.00	22.00	26.50	30.00	30.00	30.00	24.12
Eggs, new laid	doz.	45.00	48.00	51.00	51.00	53.00	53.00	53.00	51.00	51.00	51.00	51.00	54.00	51.00
Bacon, rashers	lb.	43.40	43.40	45.20	46.00	46.00	48.00	48.00	48.40	52.00	52.00	55.55	57.40	48.78
Milk, condensed	tin	15.00	15.00	15.00	15.00	15.00	16.00	16.00	16.00	16.00	17.40	17.40	19.00	16.07
,, fresh	quart	13.00	13.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	15.00	15.00	15.00	14.08
Meat—			March Quarter.			June Quarter.			September Quarter.			December Quarter.		
Beef, sirloin	lb.		24.33			28.00			29.00			29.67		27.75
,, rib	,,		20.84			22.11			22.85			23.23		22.26
,, steak, rump	,,		31.47			35.00			36.70			38.13		35.33
,, ,, chuck	,,		21.07			24.07			25.00			26.33		24.12
,, sausages	,,		14.73			16.47			17.58			18.13		16.73
Beef (corned) silverside	,,		21.98			25.00			25.87			27.33		25.05
,, ,, brisket	,,		18.63			21.10			20.13			22.00		20.47
Mutton, leg	,,		19.35			20.68			21.77			21.66		20.87
,, forequarter	,,		12.57			13.17			13.33			13.62		13.17
,, loin	,,		19.00			20.28			21.29			20.99		20.39
,, chops, loin	,,		19.13			20.28			21.17			21.01		20.40
,, ,, leg	,,		18.77			19.83			20.46			20.34		19.85
Pork, leg	,,		37.96			38.59			40.73			42.73		40.00
,, loin	,,		37.96			38.59			41.45			42.80		40.20
,, chops	,,		38.24			38.59			41.45			42.83		40.28

(*a*) In some cases the averages shown are price relatives.

Hobart : Average Retail Prices(*a*) of Chief Food and Groceries Items during each Month of the Year, 1951.

Article.	Unit.	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.	Average, 1951.
Groceries, &c.—		*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*
Bread	2 lb.	9.00	9.00	9.00	9.00	9.50	9.50	9.50	9.50	9.50	9.50	9.50	11.00	9.46
Flour, ordinary ..	,,	6.55	6.55	6.50	6.80	6.85	6.90	7.00	7.00	7.05	7.05	7.05	7.70	6.92
,, self-raising ..	,,	12.00	12.00	12.00	12.45	12.55	12.50	13.25	13.80	13.80	13.80	13.90	14.40	13.04
Tea	lb.	46.00	46.00	46.00	46.00	46.00	46.00	46.00	46.00	46.00	46.00	47.00	47.00	46.17
Sugar	,,	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	6.50	6.50	6.50	6.50	6.50	6.50	5.75
Sago	,,	10.20	11.40	12.95	17.00	17.00	17.00	17.00	17.00	19.90	19.90	20.20	20.20	16.65
Jam, plum ..	1½ lb.	17.05	17.30	19.00	19.20	19.50	19.50	19.50	19.65	19.50	19.50	19.85	19.70	19.10
Golden Syrup ..	2 lb.	10.05	10.10	10.05	10.05	10.05	10.05	10.05	12.30	12.45	12.45	12.45	12.45	11.04
Oats, flaked ..	lb.	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.50	9.00	9.00	10.50	11.17	11.50	11.50	11.00	11.00	9.76
Raisins, seeded ..	,,	21.93	24.00	28.17	28.19	28.21	28.25	28.25	28.25	28.29	28.25	28.29	28.21	27.36
Currants	,,	17.30	17.78	20.25	20.50	20.55	20.55	20.94	21.22	21.69	21.78	21.61	21.61	20.48
Apricots, dried ..	,,	29.75	29.75	39.54	46.33	46.27	46.27	46.27	46.00	46.17	46.17	46.17	46.17	42.90
Peaches, canned ..	30 oz.	22.06	22.06	22.06	24.83	26.33	26.50	26.50	26.80	26.80	26.80	26.92	27.64	25.44
Pears, canned ..	,,	22.61	22.61	24.58	26.56	26.58	26.65	26.69	26.75	26.92	26.88	27.58	28.00	26.03
Potatoes	7 lb.	31.45	27.11	25.39	24.19	25.89	26.00	26.78	27.83	28.96	32.36	32.36	38.73	28.92
Onions, brown ..	lb.	9.50	7.69	8.00	7.79	9.00	12.20	14.80	16.33	24.00	27.80	24.50	18.00	14.97
Soap	,,	10.67	10.67	10.67	10.67	10.67	11.33	11.33	11.67	11.67	11.67	12.00	13.33	11.36
Kerosene	quart	10.24	10.24	10.31	10.38	10.32	10.37	11.05	11.34	11.34	11.34	11.45	11.45	10.82
Dairy Produce—														
Butter, factory ..	lb.	26.50	26.50	26.50	26.50	26.50	26.50	26.50	26.50	38.00	38.00	38.00	38.00	30.33
Cheese, mild ..	,,	19.00	19.00	19.00	19.00	19.00	19.00	19.00	19.00	21.14	23.37	23.37	23.37	20.27
Eggs, new laid ..	doz.	41.10	47.75	48.10	51.67	53.17	53.36	53.50	53.50	47.10	47.10	50.20	60.10	50.55
Bacon, rashers ..	lb.	40.70	43.00	43.60	43.70	44.10	43.70	46.15	47.20	48.10	49.70	59.90	59.00	47.40
Milk, condensed ..	tin	15.00	15.00	15.00	15.00	14.90	16.00	16.00	16.00	16.00	17.55	17.55	18.40	16.03
,, fresh ..	quart	12.00	12.00	12.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	15.00	15.00	13.00	13.00	13.00	13.42
Meat—		March Quarter.			June Quarter.			September Quarter.			December Quarter.			
Beef, sirloin ..	lb.	22.17			23.80			26.63			27.83			25.11
,, rib	,,	20.26			21.18			25.56			25.27			23.07
,, steak, rump ..	,,	28.83			32.83			38.03			40.37			35.02
,, ,, chuck ..	,,	18.27			19.40			23.40			25.37			21.61
,, sausages ..	,,	12.47			14.23			18.00			18.00			15.68
Beef (corned) silver-side	,,	21.30			23.53			26.93			29.43			25.30
,, ,, brisket	,,	18.23			19.07			22.57			23.03			20.73
Mutton, leg ..	,,	16.08			22.26			25.93			27.49			22.94
,, forequarter	,,	9.46			14.68			18.04			16.77			14.74
,, loin ..	,,	14.54			21.22			23.52			22.85			20.53
,, chops, loin	,,	14.92			22.23			23.85			26.33			21.83
,, ,, leg	,,	15.09			22.75			25.11			28.37			22.83
Pork, leg ..	,,	34.09			35.30			36.50			40.40			36.57
,, loin ..	,,	34.70			35.80			37.13			40.67			37.08
,, chops ..	,,	35.83			36.40			37.30			41.30			37.76

(*a*) In some cases the averages shown are price relatives.

SECTION II.

Weekly House Rents (*a*) in Metropolitan and Provincial Towns.

TOWN.	WEIGHTED AVERAGE WEEKLY RENTS FOR 4 AND 5-ROOMED HOUSES.						
	1939.	1946.	1947.	1948.	1949.	1950.	1951.
	s. d.	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*
NEW SOUTH WALES—							
Sydney	23 3	23 5	23 5	23 6	23 7	23 7	23 8
Newcastle	20 0	20 4	20 4	20 4	20 5	20 5	20 5
Broken Hill	16 0	16 0	16 0	16 0	16 3	16 5	16 5
Goulburn	18 3	18 7	18 7	18 7	18 8	18 8	18 8
Bathurst	17 8	17 8	17 8	17 9	17 9	17 9	17 11
Five Towns(*b*) ..	**22 9**	**23 0**	**23 0**	**23 0**	**23 2**	**23 2**	**23 2**
VICTORIA—							
Melbourne	21 5	21 11	21 11	21 11	21 11	22 0	22 0
Ballarat	15 0	15 0	15 0	15 1	15 2	15 3	15 5
Bendigo	15 4	15 7	15 7	15 8	15 9	16 1	16 4
Geelong	19 8	19 11	19 11	20 0	20 0	20 0	20 0
Warrnambool ..	19 4	19 7	19 7	19 7	19 7	19 10	19 10
Five Towns(*b*) ..	**21 0**	**21 5**	**21 5**	**21 5**	**21 6**	**21 7**	**21 7**
QUEENSLAND—							
Brisbane	19 2	19 5	19 5	19 5	19 6	19 10	21 0
Toowoomba ..	17 9	18 1	18 1	18 4	18 6	19 0	19 10
Rockhampton ..	16 11	17 5	17 6	17 8	17 11	18 6	19 1
Townsville	18 1	18 2	18 2	18 2	18 2	18 2	18 7
Bundaberg	13 5	14 4	14 4	14 5	14 6	14 9	15 3
Five Towns(*b*) ..	**18 8**	**18 11**	**18 11**	**19 0**	**19 1**	**19 5**	**20 5**
SOUTH AUSTRALIA—							
Adelaide	19 11	20 1	20 2	20 3	20 6	20 10	21 4
Kadina, etc. ..	8 2	8 2	8 4	8 5	8 6	8 6	11 1
Port Pirie	14 11	14 11	14 11	14 11	14 11	15 0	15 4
Mount Gambier ..	14 5	15 0	15 1	15 1	15 2	15 4	15 10
Peterborough ..	15 9	15 10	15 10	15 11	16 0	16 1	16 4
Five Towns(*b*) ..	**19 3**	**19 5**	**19 6**	**19 7**	**19 10**	**20 2**	**20 8**
WESTERN AUSTRALIA—							
Perth and Fremantle ..	19 9	19 11	19 11	20 0	20 1	20 3	23 11
Kalgoorlie and Boulder	27 8	22 1	22 8	22 9	23 0	23 7	24 9
Northam	18 7	18 11	18 10	19 3	20 1	20 3	24 9
Bunbury	21 1	20 6	20 7	20 8	21 1	21 7	25 2
Geraldton	22 4	22 4	22 4	22 4	22 8	23 0	27 5
Five Towns(*b*) ..	**20 5**	**20 1**	**20 2**	**20 3**	**20 5**	**20 7**	**24 1**
TASMANIA—							
Hobart	20 9	21 0	21 0	21 0	21 1	21 2	23 7
Launceston ..	19 1	19 5	19 5	19 7	19 8	19 8	23 2
Burnie	17 6	17 11	17 11	17 11	17 11	17 11	20 8
Devonport	16 0	16 2	16 2	16 2	16 2	16 4	18 4
Queenstown ..	16 11	17 0	17 1	17 2	17 2	17 2	17 10
Five Towns(*b*) ..	**19 9**	**20 0**	**20 1**	**20 1**	**20 2**	**20 3**	**22 10**
Thirty Towns(*b*) ..	**21 2**	**21 5**	**21 5**	**21 6**	**21 8**	**21 9**	**22 2**
Six Capitals(*b*) ..	**21 8**	**21 11**	**21 11**	**22 0**	**22 1**	**22 2**	**22 8**

(*a*) The rents are shown to the nearest penny. Revised series comparable only with averages published since December Quarter, 1936. *See* footnote (*b*) on page 10 and sub-paragraph (vii) on page 2 as to the meaning of these averages. Rentals of new tenanted houses completed since the end of the war are not taken into account in the above table. (*b*) Weighted average.

SECTION III.

Average Retail Prices of Food in Principal Cities : Australia and Other Countries, 1951.

(Particulars extracted from Official Publications and Reports. Prices are quoted in the currency of the country concerned.)

Article.	Unit or Quantity.	AUSTRALIA.(a)								NEW ZEALAND.							
		Sydney.				Melbourne.				Wellington.				Christchurch.			
		Feb.	May.	Aug.	Nov.	Feb.	May.	Aug.	Nov.	Feb.	May.	Aug.	Nov.	Feb.	May.	Aug.	Nov.
		d.	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*
Bread	2 lb.	9.28	9.28	9.28	10.83	9.50	10.00	10.00	11.50	7.50	7.50	7.50	6.50	7.50	7.50	7.50	6.50
Flour, ordinary	,,	7.00	7.06	7.44	7.86	6.35	6.50	6.70	7.00	7.43	7.61	8.06	6.18	7.14	7.16	7.18	5.70
Tea	lb.	46.00	46.00	46.00	47.00	45.75	46.00	46.00	47.00	74.20	79.00	80.20	75.20	74.25	79.00	79.40	77.40
Jam, plum	1½ lb.	23.70	23.55	24.25	25.45	18.55	19.35	19.55	21.40	25.63	25.97	26.91	27.26	25.63	25.82	26.57	26.83
Sugar	lb.	5.00	5.00	6.50	6.50	5.00	5.00	6.50	6.50	7.00	7.50	7.50	8.00	7.05	7.38	7.50	8.00
Oatmeal	,,	8.15	11.50	11.40	11.50	6.79	8.07	10.08	10.83	6.37	6.67	7.70	8.48	6.40	6.63	8.40	8.40
Raisins	,,	22.40	27.10	27.10	28.60	22.40	27.86	27.71	27.78	f10.70	f11.50	f14.88	f17.60	f11.40	f11.25	f17.00	f17.00
Peaches, canned	30-oz. tin	21.50	26.33	26.90	27.00	20.75	26.00	26.00	26.05	30.70	32.13	32.13	34.40	29.50	29.50	30.00	34.75
Potatoes	7 lb.	28.00	31.50	31.50	42.00	27.50	28.00	28.00	44.92	19.04	19.04	20.44	22.19	11.97	11.97	16.59	16.03
Onions	lb.	6.00	6.00	29.20	14.57	5.25	5.00	9.00	18.00	7.50	6.33	9.00	11.33	4.00	2.50	6.25	6.50
Milk	quart	12.50	14.00	14.00	16.00	13.25	14.25	14.25	14.25	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Butter	lb.	26.00	26.00	26.00	37.50	26.35	26.35	26.35	37.95	24.00	24.00	24.00	20.00	24.00	24.00	24.00	20.00
Cheese	,,	19.50	19.50	19.50	27.06	18.50	18.50	18.50	26.63	18.50	19.20	19.00	20.10	18.50	19.00	19.20	21.00
Eggs	dozen	49.05	53.05	53.05	53.05	47.00	53.90	53.90	50.90	52.00	52.00	44.00	49.40	45.40	48.00	37.00	48.00
Bacon	lb.	49.06	50.00	54.61	69.28	48.88	50.00	52.63	66.69	28.00	32.00	32.00	36.30	28.40	32.00	32.00	36.00
		(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)								
Beef, sirloin	,,	26.72	27.86	30.11	35.55	25.37	28.06	30.91	32.20	19.00	21.33	22.67	24.00	18.67	18.83	20.00	21.67
,, rib	,,	18.87	20.06	20.11	23.67	22.73	24.91	27.65	28.20	17.00	18.00	20.00	21.67	17.33	17.33	19.00	20.33
,, steak, rump	,,	36.48	38.25	43.50	48.54	36.15	39.09	41.62	43.20	21.50	23.67	25.00	27.00	22.00	22.67	23.67	27.00
,, sausages	,,	15.10	15.77	18.46	19.18	16.08	17.61	19.00	19.81	11.33	13.00	14.00	14.33	11.00	11.33	11.67	12.00
Mutton, leg	,,	16.41	19.09	27.81	25.57	19.38	23.58	26.96	25.24	17.67	19.33	23.33	23.33	19.33	19.00	21.33	21.33
,, forequarter	,,	11.09	12.61	22.60	20.23	12.34	16.40	20.72	17.59	10.83	12.00	15.00	15.33	11.67	11.50	12.67	12.33
,, chops	,,	19.29	22.14	30.88	29.07	20.32	24.64	27.37	25.94	18.67	20.00	24.00	24.00	18.67	18.67	20.67	21.00
Pork, leg	,,	39.53	40.90	45.60	50.07	37.57	37.97	41.24	45.55	20.33	22.33	24.00	24.00	20.33	20.67	23.33	25.00
,, chops	,,	40.53	42.50	47.23	51.93	38.88	39.71	42.76	46.40	21.33	23.33	25.00	25.67	20.67	21.33	24.67	26.33

(a) In some cases the averages shown are price relatives. (b) Average for March quarter. (c) Average for June quarter. (d) Average for September quarter. (e) Average for December quarter. (f) Sultanas.

SECTION III.—*continued.*

Average Retail Prices of Food in Principal Cities: Australia and Other Countries, 1951—*continued.*

Article.	Unit or Quantity.	United Kingdom.(a)				Union of South Africa.							
						Capetown.				Witwatersrand.			
		Feb.	May.	Aug.	Nov.	Feb.	May.	Aug.	Nov.	Feb.	May.	Aug.	Nov.
		d.	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*
Bread	2 lb.	6.3	6.9	6.9	6.9	7.9	7.9	7.9	8.5	7.9	7.9	7.9	8.3
Flour, ordinary	,,	6.5	7.0	8.0	8.0	6.7	6.7	6.7	7.0	6.7	6.7	6.7	7.0
Tea	lb.	..	..	..	(b)44.0	82.9	84.8	80.9	74.7	83.5	87.7	80.9	73.7
Jam	1½ lb.	..	..	..	..	(c)15.7	15.9	16.1	16.1	16.3	17.4	16.8	17.1
Sugar	lb.	5.0	5.0	6.0	6.0	4.3	4.3	4.3	4.5	4.8	4.8	4.8	5.0
Rice	,,	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	8.5	9.4	..	..	10.0	10.0	..	..
Oatmeal	,,	..	..	..	..	9.0	11.1	11.1	11.1	9.3	10.7	11.1	11.1
Raisins	,,	12.0	13.0	13.0	13.0	19.5	21.1	21.9	21.7	21.1	22.4	23.2	22.9
Peaches, canned	30-oz. tin	25.7	25.7	28.3	28.3	23.8	25.1	25.6	25.4	25.1	27.6	27.8	27.9
Potatoes	7 lb.	..	..	..	(b)12.9	27.3	27.3	27.3	27.3	20.3	21.0	21.0	18.2
Onions	lb.	..	..	..	(b) 5.3	3.5	3.6	3.5	4.2	3.0	3.0	2.9	3.3
Milk	quart	10.0	10.0	11.0	11.0	10.6	10.6	11.0	11.0	10.6	10.6	11.2	11.2
Butter	lb.	24.0	30.0	30.0	30.0	33.0	33.0	33.0	33.9	33.0	33.0	33.0	33.9
Cheese	,,	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	27.0	27.0	27.0	27.9	27.0	27.0	27.0	27.9
Eggs	dozen	45.0	39.0	39.0	51.0	40.2	49.1	29.4	29.4	40.1	48.6	29.5	29.0
Bacon	lb.	32.0	32.0	32.0	32.0	32.8	33.0	35.5	35.9	32.6	32.6	35.7	35.7
Beef, sirloin	,,	(d)26.0	26.0	30.0	30.0	15.0	17.0	19.0	19.0	18.4	19.3	19.4	19.5
	,,	(e)22.0	22.0	26.0	26.0					11.4	11.4	11.6	11.6
,, rib	,,	(d)18.0	18.0	22.0	22.0	8.0	10.0	12.0	12.0	24.3	25.1	25.2	25.2
,, steak, rump	,,	(d)32.0	32.0	36.0	36.0	21.0	25.0	25.0	25.0	19.5	19.5	19.5	23.2
Mutton, leg	,,	(d)24.0	24.0	28.0	28.0	20.0	20.0	20.0	20.0	20.9	21.7	23.2	23.2
	,,	(e)17.0	17.0	18.0	18.0					24.5	25.3	26.2	26.2
Pork, leg	,,	24.0	24.0	28.0	28.0	22.0	22.0	22.0	22.0				
,, chops	,,	28.0	28.0	34.0	34.0	22.0	22.0	24.0	24.0				

(a) Maximum permitted prices with exception of those marked (b). (b) Average prices in seven large towns in Great Britain in mid-October, 1951. (c) Union jam.
(d) British. (e) Imported.

Average Retail Prices of Food in Principal Cities : Australia and Other Countries, 1951—*continued.*

Article.	Unit or Quantity.	CANADA.								UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.(a)			
		Ottawa.				Montreal.							
		Feb.	May.	Aug.	Nov.	Feb.	May.	Aug.	Nov.	Feb.	May.	Aug.	Nov.
		cents.	cents.	cents.	cents.	cents.	cents.	cents.	cents.	cents.	cents.	cents.	cents.
Bread	2 lb.	21.4	22.6	22.6	24.0	22.6	22.6	22.6	24.0	31.4	31.2	31.4	31.4
Flour, ordinary ..	,,	15.0	15.0	15.2	15.6	14.2	14.6	14.6	14.8	20.6	20.9	20.8	20.9
Tea	lb.	108.6	109.4	109.6	110.2	110.0	112.8	112.8	113.0	..	..	..	..
Jam	1½ lb.	(b) 37.4	(b) 36.7	(b) 36.7	(b) 37.1	(b) 39.8	(b) 39.9	(b) 40.1	(b) 39.5	..	..	..	..
Sugar	lb.	11.8	11.9	12.5	12.3	11.4	11.4	11.9	11.7	10.1	10.0	10.3	10.1
Rice	,,	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	18.2	18.2	18.1	16.7
Oatmeal	,,	12.9	13.1	13.2	13.5	12.7	13.3	13.3	13.2	13.7	14.2	14.3	14.3
Raisins	,,	24.2	24.9	28.6	27.9	21.3	22.3	23.7	24.3	..	..	..	..
Peaches, canned ..	30-oz. tin	43.6	45.6	44.6	44.6	41.4	41.8	43.6	44.4	..	..	..	..
Potatoes	7 lb.	18.8	19.7	24.8	30.7	17.4	17.5	19.0	30.0	30.3	34.4	34.7	42.1
Onions	lb.	6.1	6.2	9.2	8.2	6.4	7.2	9.9	8.2	7.2	9.7	7.3	8.1
Milk	quart	19.0	19.0	19.0	19.0	18.5	19.0	19.0	20.0	22.7	22.7	23.1	23.8
Butter	lb.	64.5	65.1	69.4	69.3	64.0	63.7	67.2	67.3	82.4	81.3	80.3	82.6
Cheese	,,	62.6	65.2	67.4	68.8	62.2	65.0	66.4	68.2	59.8	58.9	58.7	59.1
Eggs	dozen	57.2	70.6	86.1	83.2	57.8	70.3	85.4	81.3	62.8	69.2	78.8	84.3
Bacon	lb.	74.6	76.1	85.3	87.2	71.7	71.6	80.2	83.8	67.9	67.8	67.8	65.9
Beef, sirloin	,,	91.3	97.8	112.4	108.8	102.0	110.8	117.4	115.4	..	..	..	..
,, rib	,,	88.9	92.6	100.8	99.8	85.7	95.2	98.3	99.1	85.0	83.5	83.6	89.0
,, steak, rump ..	,,	89.2	94.2	106.6	104.8	94.0	105.5	110.8	108.7	107.4	108.4	109.2	113.0
Pork chops	,,	68.5	67.9	83.9	68.5	63.2	61.8	76.8	69.2	77.9	77.3	84.0	82.1

(a) Average for all towns. (b) Strawberry jam.

SECTION IV.

"Court" Index (Second Series) (a)—In the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration—Quarterly Retail Price Index-Numbers—Food, Groceries, Housing (4 and 5-roomed Houses), Clothing and Miscellaneous Household Expenditure. December Quarter, 1949 to December Quarter, 1950.

(Base: Weighted Average of Six Capital Cities, 1923–27 = 87.0.)

Cities and Towns.	1949.	1950.			
	December Quarter.	March Quarter.	June Quarter.	September Quarter.	December Quarter.
NEW SOUTH WALES—					
Sydney	129.2	131.8	136.0	140.3	146.1
Newcastle	126.0	128.1	132.1	135.0	141.6
Broken Hill	138.5	140.4	143.2	149.3	155.7
Goulburn	127.6	130.0	135.2	138.9	144.7
Bathurst	125.9	128.3	132.4	136.5	142.7
Five Towns (*b*)	129.1	131.6	135.8	140.0	145.9
VICTORIA—					
Melbourne	128.0	130.5	134.1	136.5	143.2
Ballarat	123.5	126.6	128.7	131.6	138.1
Bendigo	123.8	127.1	130.0	133.0	138.5
Geelong	126.7	129.8	132.5	135.6	140.8
Warrnambool	126.2	129.0	133.1	136.6	143.3
Five Towns (*b*)	127.7	130.3	133.8	136.2	142.8
QUEENSLAND—					
Brisbane	121.1	123.0	125.8	128.9	134.5
Toowoomba	122.4	124.3	126.5	130.1	135.8
Rockhampton	121.7	124.2	127.1	130.2	137.1
Townsville	125.6	127.8	131.0	132.9	138.7
Bundaberg	119.5	121.8	125.0	127.9	134.6
Five Towns (*b*)	121.5	123.4	126.2	129.3	135.1
SOUTH AUSTRALIA—					
Adelaide	125.2	126.6	129.8	132.8	139.8
Kadina, Moonta, Wallaroo	116.5	118.2	121.5	124.4	130.7
Port Pirie	123.1	124.6	127.7	130.5	138.9
Mount Gambier	120.2	122.2	126.3	131.8	141.1
Peterborough	123.4	124.8	128.3	130.5	136.6
Five Towns (*b*)	124.8	126.2	129.3	132.5	139.5
WESTERN AUSTRALIA—					
Perth, Fremantle	126.9	128.6	131.9	134.5	139.8
Kalgoorlie, Boulder	134.3	136.6	140.5	143.7	148.4
Northam	127.6	129.9	133.2	135.8	140.4
Bunbury	128.0	130.4	133.2	136.8	142.0
Geraldton	132.3	134.5	138.3	141.2	146.6
Five Towns (*b*)	127.6	129.3	132.7	135.4	140.6
TASMANIA—					
Hobart	126.9	126.5	130.5	134.5	139.2
Launceston	123.9	123.8	127.4	131.6	136.5
Burnie	122.3	123.2	126.9	129.8	136.2
Devonport	121.6	122.9	126.4	129.3	136.6
Queenstown	124.9	124.4	127.9	132.0	135.2
Five Towns (*b*)	125.5	125.3	129.1	133.1	138.0
Thirty Towns(*b*)	127.2	129.4	133.1	136.4	142.5
Six Capitals(*b*)	127.5	129.7	133.4	136.7	142.9
SPECIAL TOWNS NOT INCLUDED IN ABOVE WEIGHTED AVERAGES.					
Warwick (Q.)	120.9	122.3	124.5	128.2	133.3
Port Augusta (S.A.)	124.0	125.5	128.6	132.4	139.5
Whyalla (S.A.)	124.4	125.8	129.4	132.0	139.9
Canberra (A.C.T.)	130.7	133.1	136.3	140.4	146.9

(*a*) *See* page 39 for explanation. (*b*) Weighted average.

SECTION IV.—*continued.*

"Court" Index (Third Series) (*a*)—In the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration—Quarterly Retail Price Index-Numbers—Food, Groceries, Housing (4 and 5-roomed Houses), Clothing and Miscellaneous Household Expenditure. December Quarter, 1951 to December Quarter, 1952.

(*Base : Weighted Average of Six Capital Cities*, 1923–27 = 103.0.)

Cities and Towns.	1951.	1952.			
	December Quarter.	March Quarter.	June Quarter.	September Quarter.	December Quarter.
New South Wales—					
Sydney	216.3	223.2	235.2	236.6	238.1
Newcastle	213.3	217.8	229.7	230.8	231.5
Broken Hill	224.7	231.3	243.0	246.1	245.0
Goulburn	215.8	221.2	234.5	232.0	231.5
Bathurst	210.1	215.6	229.4	233.0	235.7
Five Towns (*b*) ..	216.1	222.8	234.9	236.3	237.7
Victoria—					
Melbourne	209.3	212.0	224.2	228.4	229.0
Ballarat	207.9	210.6	220.9	226.7	226.2
Bendigo	204.6	208.5	220.7	225.6	226.1
Geelong	207.4	211.1	222.4	227.1	226.7
Warrnambool	210.9	214.5	226.7	232.9	234.0
Five Towns (*b*) ..	209.0	211.9	224.0	228.2	228.8
Queensland—					
Brisbane	199.2	206.6	212.5	215.6	215.1
Toowoomba	200.2	208.2	215.5	217.0	217.3
Rockhampton	200.8	209.3	215.2	217.5	219.1
Townsville	206.6	214.4	220.6	224.0	225.9
Bundaberg	196.8	206.8	211.3	214.0	214.8
Five Towns (*b*) ..	199.8	207.4	213.4	216.4	216.3
South Australia—					
Adelaide	204.9	211.3	223.5	229.1	225.3
Kadina, Moonta, Wallaroo ..	198.1	204.2	215.3	219.2	216.7
Port Pirie	202.3	209.0	221.5	226.7	222.2
Mount Gambier	208.2	212.3	222.2	225.2	223.9
Peterborough	203.3	208.3	221.6	225.1	221.9
Five Towns (*b*) ..	204.6	211.0	223.0	228.6	224.8
Western Australia—					
Perth, Fremantle	204.8	214.2	222.2	228.2	229.1
Kalgoorlie, Boulder ..	214.0	222.8	231.8	237.8	239.3
Northam	205.0	213.2	224.5	230.6	232.0
Bunbury	207.2	216.9	224.3	230.9	232.2
Geraldton	215.2	223.4	235.3	242.5	243.4
Five Towns (*b*) ..	205.7	215.0	223.3	229.3	230.3
Tasmania—					
Hobart	208.4	214.2	222.3	229.7	231.5
Launceston	207.5	212.0	220.2	227.4	227.7
Burnie	202.8	208.5	217.2	224.0	223.5
Devonport	200.0	205.1	214.1	221.3	221.6
Queenstown	204.7	210.1	217.5	222.2	223.2
Five Towns (*b*) ..	207.4	212.7	220.9	228.1	229.2
Thirty Towns (*b*)	210.1	215.8	226.9	230.2	230.6
Six Capital Cities (*b*)	210.3	216.0	227.2	230.5	231.0

SPECIAL TOWNS NOT INCLUDED IN ABOVE WEIGHTED AVERAGES.

Warwick (Q.)	197.5	205.3	212.2	215.6	**216.5**
Port Augusta (S.A.)	204.8	209.8	222.9	227.3	**221.8**
Whyalla (S.A.)	207.6	211.8	225.1	229.2	**225.9**
Canberra (A.C.T.)	216.6	221.0	234.3	235.6	**234.7**

(*a*) *See* page 39 for explanation. (*b*) Weighted average.

SECTION V.

Retail Prices.

EXTRACT FROM THE REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS OF THE CONFERENCE OF BRITISH COMMONWEALTH STATISTICIANS HELD AT CANBERRA, NOVEMBER, 1951.

RETAIL PRICES AND/OR COST OF LIVING INDEXES.

(*Agenda Item* 9 (*a*).)

57. The 1935 Conference recommended that index-numbers of retail prices should be constructed, published and revised in accordance with the general principles enumerated at the 1920 Conference and in Article 2, vi of the International Convention relating to Economic Statistics (1928). The Second International Conference of Labour Statisticians in 1925 made a number of recommendations concerning the compilation of indexes of retail prices, and the Sixth International Conference in 1947 adopted a comprehensive resolution which included detailed recommendations on the methods and techniques to be used in measuring changes in prices.

58. The Conference decided to limit its attention to seven questions, namely, coverage, quality changes, seasonal variations, collection of prices with special reference to controlled and "open" market and "black" market prices, substitution, housing, and publication of average retail prices.

Coverage.

59. In most countries, index-numbers of retail prices were first constructed to throw light on changes in the cost of living of manual wage-earners. Consequently the weighting basis was restricted to the expenditure pattern of this section of each community and the items priced were restricted to important articles bought by manual wage-earners. Since 1935, however, there has been a general trend in most countries towards increasing both the coverage of the indexes and the number of items priced.

60. The Conference agreed that it is desirable to have only one official index of retail prices, and that this should be broadly based both as regards groups of persons covered in the weighting system, and also as regards the items priced. Some countries have found it necessary to compile index-numbers for different areas or cities of their countries. It was recognized that, in some countries, wide differences in expenditure patterns of different groups would make it necessary to have more than one index, but it was considered that the number of such indexes should be small in order to avoid confusion.

61. The Conference noted that in most Commonwealth countries where only one index was compiled it had reference to urban communities. It was generally agreed that where there are large differences in the patterns of expenditure of urban and rural households a single index is inadequate.

62. The Conference agreed that direct taxes ought not to be included in an index of retail prices and it observed that no Commonwealth country does so in its general index. On the other hand it was noted that indirect taxation is normally included insofar as it affects the prices of goods and services.

Quality Changes.

63. One of the most difficult problems encountered in the construction of index-numbers of retail prices is how to deal with changes in quality. The principle adopted in the construction of an index-number of retail prices of Laspeyres form is to measure the changing cost of a fixed basket of goods of unchanged quality. But although the principle is clear its application presents considerable difficulties. Although suggestions have been made that account should be taken only of changes in durability of articles priced it is not possible to define quality in terms of durability only. Many factors continue to determine quality.

64. There are in practice two difficulties to be surmounted—

(i) It is necessary to be able to detect changes in quality when they have taken place.

(ii) It is then necessary to decide what adjustment, if any, should be made in computing the price relatives.

65. Detection of changes in quality is possible by careful specification and close consultation with the retailers who supply the prices used in the index, and with manufacturers and others who can supply pertinent information. If an adjustment is necessary because of a change in quality, and prices are available for both new and old qualities over a period, a simple link can be made. If, on the other hand, the new quality

SECTION V.—*continued.*

entirely supplants the old, an estimate may have to be made of the value of the new quality in terms of the old. This involves establishing a criterion of quality. In some circumstances, durability is a suitable criterion, but, in the other cases, it is necessary to consider how important such measurable changes are compared with other changes such as palatability, style, and fashion, which are most difficult to measure but which do determine quality in very many cases.

66. The Conference agreed that every effort must be made to detect changes in the specifications or qualities of items priced, and that appropriate adjustments should be made, where possible, to ensure that the index measures changes in prices of a fixed basket of goods. It was recognized, however, that it is difficult to detect changes in quality, especially where these changes are not sudden but take place gradually.

Seasonal Variations.

67. The Sixth International Conference of Labour Statisticians in 1947 resolved that " every effort should be made to include a suitable representation of fresh, canned, dried and frozen fruits and vegetables in the list of goods priced " and that " whenever necessary and feasible, account should therefore be taken in the methods adopted of the seasonal factors in consumption and prices."

68. Most Commonwealth countries include some fruits and vegetables in their indexes of retail prices and consequently have to meet the technical problems arising from seasonal fluctuations in supplies and prices.

69. Although for some purposes it is desirable to remove seasonal fluctuations in prices, for other purposes it is equally desirable that the index should include seasonal changes in price.

70. If seasonal fruits and vegetables are included in an index it is desirable to make some allowance for the considerable month to month variations in consumption of these commodities. At the same time it is essential to maintain the concept of an index which measures changes in prices of a fixed expenditure pattern in the base period. This can be done by having a fixed weight for the fruit and vegetable sub-group within which the weights for individual items may vary and even become zero in particular cases where the item is off the market. Prices or price relatives are then applied at the item level in the usual way.

71. The Conference agreed that an index of retail prices should, if possible, include prices of vegetables and fresh fruits where these are an important part of food consumption, and that in Commonwealth countries where it is not already done an attempt should be made to work out suitable procedures which would make allowance for important seasonal variations in consumption. It was recognized that circumstances might prevent the inclusion of these items, for example, where short-term fluctuations in supplies and prices are very erratic.

72. In the New Zealand consumers' price index, allowance is made for seasonal changes in prices of both fruits and vegetables, while changes in the varieties of these commodities available from month to month are also taken into account. The method by which this is done is to adjust the quantities in each monthly basket in such a manner as to obtain a constant total expenditure on fruits and vegetables in each month of the base year after allowing for the secular trend in the prices. In making this adjustment it is necessary to maintain in each month a correct relationship between the quantities of the various commodities which are marketed in that month in the base period.

Collection of Prices.

73. Where price controls are still maintained, difficulties sometimes arise owing to the divergence of these prices from the prices actually paid by some consumers. The Sixth International Conference of Labour Statisticians recommended that index-numbers of retail prices should reflect prices actually charged to consumers. The practical difficulty is to obtain reliable " open " or " black " market prices and to determine how representative they are and to ascertain their relative weights.

74. The Conference agreed that actual prices (including illegal prices charged openly) should be obtained, where possible, from a large and representative sample of retailers. This does not imply that controlled prices should be ignored ; but that both controlled and " black " or " open " market prices should as far as possible be obtained and given their due weight.

SECTION V.—*continued.*

Enforced Substitution.

75. Several countries in which food is still rationed have been faced with the question of whether any special adjustment should be made in an index of retail prices to allow for the fact that, when the ration of a particular commodity is cut, an alteration in consumption pattern is forced on consumers. In certain circumstances some consumers may buy more expensive substitutes and, even where the substitutes are cheaper, all consumers may suffer a loss in the form of this forced change.

76. The Conference agreed that, although some adjustment for this factor should, in principle, be made in an index which purported to measure changes in the cost of living, it would not be appropriate in an index which was designed to measure changes in prices. The only possible way of meeting this situation is to revise the weighting basis of the index. An indication of when this is necessary may be secured by small-scale sample surveys of consumption patterns. For other reasons also such surveys are important and should be carried out where possible.

Housing.

77. In most countries, rents of many dwellings are still controlled, while rents of most new dwellings are uncontrolled and much higher. In cases where an unchanging sample is included at each collection of statistics of rent, no account is taken of these higher rentals. One approach to this problem would be to take an adequate and changing sample of dwellings at each rent collection, so that new houses as well as old, and both controlled and uncontrolled rents, would be represented in the index. Stratification by size and type of houses would be advisable.

78. The Conference considered that the circumstances now existing in many Commonwealth countries made it desirable to include owner-occupiers' housing costs in the index. Components of housing costs discussed by the Conference included repairs and maintenance, local rates, insurance, interest on capital and depreciation. There was general agreement that the first three of these items could be included. However, the latter two items, depreciation and interest on capital, gave rise to considerable discussion. It was argued that depreciation contained an element of saving and that the residual of true depreciation would be very small in certain countries where the average life of housing covered a long span of years. In countries where housing is relatively shortlived, however, the item is significant. The solution suggested in this case is to obtain the value of the physical depreciation, each year, on the stock of housing in existence during the year. This would require a price index for new housing, together with a small weight based upon knowledge of the average length of life of housing in the countries wishing to utilize the method.

Publication of Average Retail Prices.

79. There is an increasing demand for regular publications of actual average retail prices. The Conference agreed that this demand should be met wherever practicable.

SECTION VI.

Minimum Rates of Wage for Adult Male Workers in the Main Occupations in the Capital City of each State for a Full Week's Work (excluding Overtime) at 31st December, 1951.

NOTE.—These rates are quoted from the latest Awards, Determinations, or Agreements which were in force at 31st December, 1951. Where two or more Award, Determination, or Agreement Rates are quoted, the reason for such is that different rates of wage have been fixed for various classes or grades of work. In certain cases of this nature the wages are shown in the form (say) 229s. 0d. to 246s. 6d., indicating that in addition to the two rates specified there are also certain intermediate rates in force. In other cases the rates are shown in the form 230s. 6d. and 245s. 6d., indicating that there are only two minimum or standard rates in force for different classes or grades of work, and that there are no intermediate minimum or standard rates. Except where otherwise specified by a numerical prefix in small type, the hours of labour constituting a full week's work are 40. (See footnotes below).

GROUP I. WOOD, FURNITURE, SAWMILLS AND TIMBER YARDS.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
Coopering—	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*
Coopers	259 0	269 0	240 0	262 0	269 3	291 0
Furniture—						
Cabinetmakers ..	257 0	246 6	228 0	242 6	248 8	246 6
Carpet Planners ..	257 0	246 6	..	242 6	250 8	246 6
Chairmakers ..	257 0	246 6	228 0	242 6	248 8	246 6
French Polishers ..	257 0	246 6	228 0	242 6	247 2	246 6
Upholsterers ..	257 0	246 6	228 0	242 6	247 2	246 6
Woodcarvers ..	257 0	246 6	228 0	242 6	247 2	246 6
Wood Machinists ..	257 0	229/ to 246/6	228 0	225/ to 242/6	239 8	229/ to 246/6
Mattress Making—Wire—						
Finishers	245 6	229 0	221 7	225 0	229 8	229 0
Makers	249/6 & 252/	246 6	221 7	242 6	239 8	246 6
Picture Framing—						
Compo. Workers ..	241 0	239 0	221 0	235 0	230 8	239 0
General Hands ..	241 0	229 0	221 0	225 0	230 8	229 0
Gilders	241 0	229 0	221 0	225 0	230 8	229 0
Mount Cutters ..	241 0	229 0	221 0	225 0	230 8	229 0
Sawmilling and Timber Yards—						
Box and Casemakers	237 0	229 0	201 6	225 0	220 8	229 0
Labourers	221 0	213 0	200 6	209 0	210 8	213 0
Machinists—						
Box Printing ..	228 6	220 6	..	216 6	..	220 6
Boults Carver ..	253 6	245 6	223 0	241 6	250 8	245 6
Nailing	229 0	221 0	201 6	217 0	220 8	221 0
Planing	238/6 & 253/6	230/6 & 245/6	202 6	226/6 & 241/6	235/8 & 250/8	230/6 & 245/6
Shaping	253 6	245 6	223 0	241 6	255 8	245 6
Ordermen	240 6	232 6	208 0	228 6	235 8	232 6
Saw Doctors ..	272 0	264 0	232 8	260 0	271 8	264 0
Sawyers—						
Band or jig ..	238/ to 259/	230/ to 251/	230 6	226/ to 247/	235/8 & 248/8	230/ to 251/
Circular	239/ & 251/6	231/ & 243/6	210 6	227/ & 239/6	235/8 & 246/8	231/ & 243/6
Stackers	224/ & 231/	216/ & 223/	200 6	212/ & 219/	221 8	216/ & 223/
Wood Turners ..	253 6	245 6	209 10	241 6	255 8	245 6

GROUP II.—ENGINEERING, METAL WORKS, ETC.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	s. d.	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*
Agricultural Implements—						
Assemblers ..	239 0	223/ & 227/	204 0	219/ & 223/	221/8 & 227/8	231 0
Bulldozermen ..	260 6	228 0	..	224 0	..	252 6
Drillers	235/ to 259/	224 0	..	220 0	260 8	227/ to 251/
Fitters	239/ to 259/	229/ to 236/	..	225/ to 232/	233/8 & 236/8	231/ to 251/
Labourers—unskilled	216 0	208 0	..	204 0	205 8	208 0
Machinists—iron ..	235/ to 259/	227/ to 251/	..	223/ to 247/	260 8	227/ to 251/
Painters—Brush ..	230 0	222 0	..	218 0	222 8	222 0
Scroll ..	230 0	231 0	..	227 0	222 8	222 0
Patternmakers ..	272 0	264 0	..	260 0	277 8	264 0
Sheet Iron Workers	244 0	236/ & 251/	..	232/ & 247/	236/8 & 251/8	236 0
Strikers	230/ & 232/	222/ & 224/	..	218/ & 220/	229/8	222/ & 224/

Various numbers of hours constituting a full week's work.

(1) 34 hours. (2) 36 hours. (3) 37½ hours. (4) 38 hours. (5) 38½ hours (77 per fortnight). (6) 39 hours. (7) 44 hours. (8) 55 hours. (9) 56 hours. (10) 35 to 40 hours. (11) 40 and 38 hours. (12) 76 hours per fortnight. (13) 42 hours. (14) 48 hours.

SECTION VI.—*continued.*

GROUP II.—ENGINEERING, METAL WORKS, ETC.—*continued.*

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	s. d.	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*
Boiler Making—						
Journeymen ..	259 0	251 0	237 0	247 0	260 8	251 0
Railwaymen ..	259 0	251 0	237 0	247 0	260 8	251 0
Brassworking—						
Coremakers ..	235/ to 259/	227/ to 251/	237 0	223/ to 247/	260 8	227/ to 251/
Dressers	237/ & 239/	229/ & 231/	212 6	225/ & 227/	231/8 & 234/8	229/ & 231/
Finishers	244/ & 259/	236/ & 251/	237 0	232/ & 247/	260 8	236/ & 251/
Furnacemen ..	241/ to 244/	233/ to 236/	214/ to 232/6	229/ to 232/	236 8	233/ to 236/
Moulders	235/ to 259/	227/ to 251/	224/ & 237/	223/ to 247/	260 8	227/ to 251/
Cycles—						
Assemblers ..	226 6	228/6 & 236/	217/ & 237/	227/ & 239/6	228/8 & 230/8	232 0
Frame Builders ..	237 0	236/ & 237/3	232 6	236/ & 251/	244/8 & 255/8	237 0
Repairers	237 0	236/ & 237/3	232 6	236/ & 251/	244/8 & 255/8	246 6
Turners (Cycle) ..	237 0	251 0	232 6	236/ & 251/	260 8	251 0
Electrical Installation—						
Cable Jointers ..	254/6 & 257/6	246/6 & 249/6	237 0	242/6 & 245/6	245 2	246/6 & 249/6
Fitters	259 0	251 0	239 9	247 0	260 8	251 0
Mechanics	259 0	251 0	237 0	247 0	260 8	251 0
Patrolmen	232/6 & 247/	224/6 & 239/	210 11	220/6 & 235/	245 2	224/6 & 239/
Wiremen	247 0	239 0	237 0	235 0	245 2	239 0
Other Adults ..	216 0	208 0	203 0	204 0	205 8	208 0
Electrical Supply—						
Armature Winders ..	271 0	251 0	239 9	247 0	260 8	251 0
Cable Jointers ..	271 0	246/6 & 249/6	237 0	242/6 & 245/6	245 2	246/6 & 249/6
Instrument Makers ..	274 6	266 6	239 9	262 6	260 8	266 6
Linesmen	265 0	239 0	237 0	235 0	245 2	239/ to 251/
Meter Testers ..	274 6	231/ & 238/	237 0	227/ & 234/	..	231/ & 238/
Patrolmen—Night ..	..	239 0	219 0	235 0	..	239 0
Shift Electricians ..	271 0	251 0	263 9	247 0	..	251 0
Switchboard Attendants	..	237 6	203 0	233 6	..	237 6
Other Adults ..	242 0	208 0	203 0	204 0	205 8	208 0
Electrical Trades—						
Fitters	259 0	251 0	239 9	247 0	260 8	251 0
Mechanics	259 0	251 0	237 0	247 0	260 8	251 0
Wiremen	247 0	239 0	237 0	235 0	245 2	239 0
Electroplating—						
Platers	229/ to 259/	221/ to 251/	237 0	217/ to 247/	231/8 to 260/8	221/ to 251/
Polishers	237 0	236 0	215/ & 237/	225 0	237 8	236 0
Engineering—						
Blacksmiths ..	260 6	252 6	241 6	248 6	260 8	252 6
Borers and Slotters ..	244/ & 259/	236/ & 251/	237 0	232/ & 247/	260 8	236/ & 251/
Brassfinishers ..	244/ & 259/	236/ & 251/	237 0	232/ & 247/	260 8	236/ & 251/
Coppersmiths ..	260 6	252 6	238 6	248 6	260 8	252 6
Drillers—Radial ..	231/ & 254/6	223/ & 246/6	213 0	219/ & 242/6	260 8	223/ & 246/6
Fitters	259 0	251 0	237 0	247 0	260 8	251 0
Millers	244/ & 259/	236/ & 251/	237 0	232/ to 247/	260 8	236/ & 251/
Patternmakers ..	272 0	264 0	250 0	260 0	277 8	264 0
Planers—						
Rail and Plate Edge	244/ & 259/	236/ & 251/	213 0	232/ & 247/	231 8	236/ & 251/
Other	244/ & 259/	236/ & 251/	237 0	232/ & 247/	260 8	236/ & 251/
Shapers	244/ & 259/	236/ & 251/	237 0	232/ & 247/	260 8	236/ & 251/
Turners	259 0	251 0	237 0	247 0	260 8	251 0
Ironworking—Assistants—						
Boilermakers' Helpers	230 0	222 0	210 0	218 0	229 8	222 0
,, Labourers	230 0	222 0	200 10	218 0	205 8	222 0
Engineers' Labourers	230 0	222 0	200 10	218 0	229 8	222 0
Furnacemen's Assists.	230 0	222 0	200 10	218 0	228 8	222 0
Moulders' Labourers	230 0	222 0	200 10	218 0	229 8	222 0
Strikers	230/ & 232/	222/ & 224/	200 10	218/ & 220/	229 8	222/ & 224/

SECTION VI.—*continued.*

GROUP II.—ENGINEERING, METAL WORKS, ETC.—*continued.*

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	s. d.	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*
Moulding—Iron—						
Coremakers—Machine	235/ to 246/	227/ to 238/	237 0	223/ to 234/	244 8	227/ to 238/
,, Other	250 0	251 0	237 0	247 0	260 8	251 0
Dressers and Fettlers	230/ to 240/	222/ to 232/	212 6	218/ to 228/	231/8 & 234/8	222/ to 232/
Furnacemen ..	236/ to 254/6	228/ to 246/6	214/ to 232/6	224/ to 242/6	236/8 to 240/8	228/ to 246/6
Moulders—Machine ..	235/ to 246/	227/ to 238/	224 0	223/ to 234/	244 8	227/ to 238/
,, Other ..	250 0	251 0	237 0	247 0	260 8	251 0
Sheet Metal Working—						
Canister Makers ..	233 0	225 0	211 0	221 0	224 8	225 0
Japanners—						
Coating or Brushwork	229 0	221 0	222 0	217 0	220 2	221 0
Ornamental ..	244 0	236 0	222 0	232 0	220 2	236 0
Solderers	229/ & 233/	221/ & 225/	222 0	217/ & 221/	221 8	221/ & 225/
Tinsmiths	244/ & 259/	236/ & 251/	237 0	232/ & 247/	251 8	236/ & 251/
Nailmaking—						
Case Wirers ..	227 0	208 0	..	..	..	..
Labourers	227 0	208 0	..	..	..	..
Setters Up	246 0	225 0	..	..	..	..
Wire Working—						
Journeymen ..	227 0	228 0	198 0	210 0	216 2	..

GROUP III.—FOOD, DRINK, TOBACCO, ETC.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	s. d.	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*
Aerated Water and Cordials—						
Bottlers	227 0	219 0	205 0	222 0	220 8	219 0
Drivers (Motor) ..	238/6 to 249/	230/6 to 241/	213/ to 221/	226/6 to 237/	228/8 & 231/8	230/6 to 241/
,, (One Horse)	230 6	222 6	211 0	218 6	221 2	222 6
Packers	224 0	216 0	202 0	219 0	214 2	216 0
Wirers	224 0	216 0	202 0	219 0	214 2	216 0
Baking (Bread)—						
Board Hands ..	267 0	[4]260 10	225/ to 230/	247 6	268 8	251 0
Carters (One horse) ..	247 0	[18]241 0	212 0	242 0	226 8	230 6
Doughmen .. .	279/6 & 282/6	[4]265 10	232 6	257 6	273 8	251 0
Ovenmen	275 6	[4]260 10	230 0	247 6	268 8	251 0
Singlehands ..	272 0	[4]270 0	232 6	252 6	273 8	258 6
Baking (Biscuits and Cakes)—						
Adult Males ..	213 0	216 0	199 6	208 0	217 8	202 0
Bakers	239 6	238 0	210 0	225 0	226 8	237 0
Mixers	228/ & 232/	237 0	210 0	223 0	228 8	241 6
Brewing—						
Adult Males ..	241 0	235 0	206 0	219 0	238 8	237 0
Bottlers and Washers	241 0	235 0	206 0	219 0	238 8	237 0
Cellarmen	241/ & 246/	243 3	216 0	234 0	243 8	237 0
Drivers (Two Horses)	247 0	241 0	217 0	222 0	238 8	230 6
,, (Motor under 3 tons) ..	255 0	254 9	217/ to 225/	225 0	248 8	230/6 & 236/6
Towermen	246 0	244 0	206 0	222 0	243 8	245 0
Butchering (Carcass)—						
Chilling Room Hands	233/ & 238/	292 6	208 0	263 9	233 2	261 0
Labourers (Beef) ..	237 0	255 6	208 0	256 9	221 8	239 0
,, (Mutton) ..	229 0	255 6	208 0	256 9	221 8	239 0
Scalders .. .	277 0	266 0	225 6	331 0	221 8	242 6
Slaughtermen (Beef)	317 0	318 3	233 6	331 0	250 8	271 0
,, (Mutton)	(*a*)	318 3	233 6	331 0	250 8	271 0

(*a*) Piecework rates.

SECTION VI.—*continued.*

GROUP III.—FOOD, DRINK, TOBACCO, ETC.—*continued.*

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
Butchering (Retail)—	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*
Carters (Cash Cutting)	259 0	251 0	237 0	247 0	244 2	241 0
,, (One Horse) ..	242 0	222 6	220 0	230 0	219 8	222 6
General Hands ..	262 0	254 0	240 0	250 0	244 2	244 0
Shopmen	262 0	254 0	240 0	250 0	244/2 & 249/2	244 0
Smallgoodsmen ..	267 0	259 0	245 0	255 0	244 2	249 0
Cold Storage and Ice—						
Chamber Hands ..	241/ & 252/	292 6	201 6	227 0	230 8	252 9
Pullers and Stackers	231/ & 252/	270 6	204 9	227 0	230 8	252 9
Confectionery—						
Journeymen ..	249 0	229/ to 241/	207 6	227/ & 233/	237 8	229/ to 241/
Storemen	225 0	229 0	200 0	221 0	233 2	225 0
Ham and Bacon Curing—						
Curers—First Hand ..	264 0	287 0	246 7	283 0	250 8	264 6
Cutters Up—First Hand	248 6	287 0	240 2	283 0	241 8	264 6
Ham Baggers ..	..	259 6	231 6	255 6	..	237 0
Lardmen	237 0	259/6 to 271/6	231 6	255/6 to 267/6	..	237 0
Rollers and Trimmers	255 0	271 6	225 0	267 6	229/2 & 241/8	249 0
Scalders	248 0	271 6	237 6	267 6	241 8	249 0
Slaughtermen ..	265 0	287 0	248 11	283 0	250 8	271 0
Smallgoodsmen—First Hand	256 0	278 3	246 7	274 3	250 8	255 9
Smokers—First Hand	238 0	271 6	237 5	267 6	250 8	249 0
Jam Making and Preserving—						
Adult Males ..	222 0	222 0	202 6	222 0	217 8	222 0
Solderers	231 0	231 0	222 0	231 0	221 8	231 0
Malting—						
Malsters	243 0	240 0	206 0	219 0	238 8	245 0
Milling—Condiments—						
Grinders	251 0	233 0	..	..	226 11	..
Mixers or Blenders ..	251 0	233 0	196 6	..	228 2	..
Stone Dressers ..	251 0	243 6	196 6	..	226 11	..
Milling—Flour—						
Millers—Head ..	284 0	284 0	245 0	284 0	284 0	270 9
,, Shift ..	259/ to 284/	259/ to 284/	230/ to 239/	259/ to 284/	259/ to 284/	261/3 to 269/
Packermen ..	244 0	244 0	215 6	244 0	244 0	244 9
Purifiermen ..	247 0	247 0	215 6	247 0	247 0	234 0
Silksmen	247 0	247 0	215 6	247 0	247 0	239 9
Storemen—Head ..	249/ & 254/	249/ & 254/	215/6 & 221/	249/ & 254/	249/ & 254/	243 6
Topmen	247 0	247 0	218 0	247 0	247 0	239 9
Truckers and Others..	227 0	227 0	213 0	227 0	227 0	234 0
Milling—Oatmeal—						
Kilnmen	234 0	228 6	..	..	..	234/ & 238/3
Millers—Head ..	251 0	243 6	..	..	..	270 9
Pastrycooking—						
Carters	228 6	222 6	207 0	218 6	221 2	222 6
Pastrycooks ..	248 6	249 0	220/6 & 228/	247 6	240/2 & 246/8	244 0

GROUP IV.—CLOTHING, TEXTILES, ETC.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
Bootmaking—	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*
Bootmakers ..	244 0	244 0	244 0	244 0	236 0	244 0
Tailoring—Order—						
Cutters	332 0	283 0	283 0	283 0	283 0	283 0
Pressers	247 0	247 0	247 0	247 0	247 0	247 0
Tailors	254 0	254 0	254 0	254 0	254 0	254 0
Trimmers	247 0	247 0	247 0	247 0	247 0	247 0

SECTION VI.—*continued.*

GROUP IV.—CLOTHING, TEXTILES, ETC.—*continued.*

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	s. d.	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*
Tailoring—Ready-made—						
Cutters	258 0	258 0	258 0	258 0	258 0	258 0
Folders	228 0	228 0	228 0	228 0	228 0	228 0
Machinists	247 0	247 0	247 0	247 0	247 0	247 0
Pressers	247 0	247 0	247 0	247 0	247 0	247 0
Tailors	254 0	254 0	254 0	254 0	254 0	254 0
Trimmers	247 0	247 0	247 0	247 0	247 0	247 0
Textile-Working—Woollen Mills—						
Carders	229 0	229 0	203/ & 206/	222 0	229 0	229 0
Dyehousemen	234 0	234 0	203 0	227 0	234 0	234 0
Labourers—General	205 0	205 0	199 0	198 0	205 0	205 0
Pattern Weavers	240 0	240 0	..	233 0	240 0	240 0
Scourers	234/ & 241/6	234/ & 241/6	209/ & 215/	227/ & 234/6	234/ & 241/6	234/ & 241/6
Spinners	229 0	229 0	203/ & 210/	222 0	229 0	229 0
Tuners	222/ to 252/	222/ to 252/	201/ to 228/	215/ to 245/	222/ to 252/	222/ to 252/

GROUP V.—BOOKS, PRINTING, BINDING, ETC.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	s. d.	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*
Bookbinding—						
Bookbinders	265 0	257 0	243 0	253 0	255 0	257 0
Finishers	265 0	257 0	243 0	253 0	255 0	257 0
Marblers	265 0	257 0	243 0	253 0	255 0	257 0
Paper Rulers	265 0	257 0	243 0	253 0	255 0	257 0
Engraving (Process)—(*a*)						
Engravers	267 0	259 0	..	255 0	265 8	263 0
Etchers—Half-tone	271 6	263 6	..	259 6	265 8	263 6
Etchers—Line	267 0	259 0	..	255 0	260 8	259 0
Operators	271 6	263 6	..	259 6	265 8	263 6
Printers	267 0	259/ & 263/6	..	255 0	260 8	257 0
Routers	265 0	257 0	..	253 0	251 8	257 0
Lithographing—						
Printers	265 0	257 0	243 0	253 0	255 0	257 0
Rotary Machinists	265 0	257 0	243 0	253 0	255 0	257 0
Stone Polishers	235 0	227 0	213 0	223 0	225 0	227 0
Printing (Daily Newspapers)—						
Compositors—						
Day Work	333/ to 340/6	[4]310 0	284/ & 293/	290 0	[4]290 0	294 0
Night Work	348/ to 356/6	[4]335 0	294/ & 313/	310 0	[2]305 0	314 0
Linotype Attendants—						
Day Work	293/ to 300/6	268 6	273/6 & 282/6	272 0	[4]258 1	276 0
Night Work	308/ to 316/6	[4]293 6	283/6 & 302/6	292 0	[2]273 1	296 0
Linotype Operators—						
Day Work	333/ to 340/6	310 0	267/6 & 276/6	290 0	[2]302 9	294 0
Night Work	348/ to 356/6	[4]335 0	227/6 & 296/6	310 0	[1]317 9	314 0
Machinists (First Hand)—						
Day Work	293/ to 305/6	314 6	276/ & 285/	290 0	[4]279 11	294 0
Night Work	308/ to 321/6	[4]339 6	286/ & 305/	310 0	[2]294 11	314 0
Publishers	270/6 to 294/	[11]268/6 to 293/6	242/6 & 271/6	257 0	[4]255/1 & [2]270/1	261 0
Readers—						
Day Work	300/6 to 308/	310 0	267/6 & 276/6	281 0	[4]290 0	285 0
Night Work	315/6 to 324/	[4]335 0	277/6 & 296/6	301 0	[2]305 0	305 0
Readers' Assistants—						
Day Work	270/6 to 278/	282 6	242/6 & 251/6	254 0	[4]250 4	258 0
Night Work	285/6 to 294/	[4]307 6	252/6 & 271/6	274 0	[2]265 4	278 0
Stereotypers (First Class)—						
Day Work	288/ to 300/6	[6]310 0	262/6 & 266/6	269 0	[1]275 1	273 0
Night Work	303/ to 316/6	[4]335 0	272/6 & 286/6	289 0	[1]290 1	293 0

(*a*) Other than in newspaper offices.

SECTION VI.—*continued.*

GROUP V.—BOOKS, PRINTING, BINDING, ETC.—*continued.*

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	s. d.	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*
Printing (Job Offices)—						
Compositors ..	265/ to 275/6	257/ to 267/6	243/ to 253/6	253/ to 263/6	255/ to 265/6	257/ to 267/6
Electrotypers ..	265 0	257 0	243 0	253 0	255 0	257 0
General Hands ..	223 0	215 0	201 0	211 0	213 0	215 0
Linotype Operators ..	275 6	267 6	253 6	263 6	265 6	267 6
Machinists	265 0	257 0	243 0	253 0	255 0	257 0
Monotype Operators	275 6	267 6	253 6	263 6	265 6	267 6
Monotype Casting Machinists ..	265 0	257 0	243 0	253 0	255 0	257 0
Readers	268 6	260 6	246 6	256 6	258 6	260 6
Stereotypers ..	265 0	257 0	243 0	253 0	255 0	257 0

GROUP VI.—OTHER MANUFACTURING.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	s. d.	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*
Brickmaking—						
Burners	237/ & 243/	240 0	203 0	231 6	232 8	239 9
Carters—Two Horses	238 0	230 6	216 0	226 6	228 8	222 6
Drawers	259 6	238/3 & 240/9	200 6	236 6	235 8	239 9
Labourers	234 6	229 0	195 8	219 0	224 8	237 0
Machinemen ..	253 6	235 3	200 6	230 0	224 8	237 0
Panmen	241/6 & 256/6	232/ & 236/6	195 8	237 6	224 8	237 0
Pitmen	254 0	243/3 & 249/3	197 6	244 0	224 8	237 0
Setters	259 6	238/3 & 250/9	199 0	236 6	235 8	242 6
Wheelers	251 0	231 6	197 6	225 0	224 8	237 0
Brushmaking—						
Bass Broom Drawers	244 6	239 0	202 6	240 0	231 8	..
Finishers	244 6	239 0	202 6	240 0	231 8	..
Machinists—Boring ..	244 6	224 0	202 6	240 0	231 8	..
Paint Brush Makers	252 0	245 3	202 6	240 0	231 8	..
Candle Making—						
Acidifiers	237 6	237 6	..	233 6	..	..
General Hands ..	231 0	226/ to 231/	..	224 0	213 8	..
Glycerine Distillers ..	243 3	237 6	..	233 6	228 2	..
Moulders	243 3	231 0	..	225 6	..	..
Stillmen	248 6	237 6	..	233 6	..	..
Cardboard Box Makers—						
Guillotine and other Cutters	238/6 to 250/6	230/6 to 242/6	200 0	226/6 to 238/6	228/6 to 240/6	230/6 to 242/6
Other Adults ..	223 0	215 0	187 6	211 0	213 0	215 0
Coachmaking (Road)—						
Bodymakers ..	259 0	251 0	237 0	247 0	251 8	251 0
Labourers	210 0	202 0	196 6	198 0	205 8	202 0
Painters	232/6 to 253/6	224/6 to 245/6	231 6	220/6 to 241/6	247 2	224/6 to 245/6
Smiths	260 6	252 6	238 6	248 6	251 8	252 6
Trimmers	253 6	245 6	231 6	241 6	247 2	245 6
Wheelmaking Machinists	259 0	251 0	231 6	247 0	241 2	251 0
Wheelwrights ..	253 6	245 6	231 6	241 6	247 2	245 6
Fellmongering—						
Bate Hands ..	232 0	225 0	212 0	221 0	220 8	227 0
Green Hands ..	232 0	225 0	212 0	221 0	220/8 & 224/5	227 0
Limepit Men ..	232 0	225 0	212 0	221 0	220 8	227 0
Machinists ..	232/ to 240/6	225/ to 233/6	212/ to 220/6	221/ to 229/6	220/8 & 224/5	227/ to 235/6
Soakhole Men ..	235 0	228 0	215 0	224 0	224 5	230 0
Wool Sorters ..	250/6 & 270/6	243/6 & 263/6	230/6 & 250/6	239/6 & 259/6	236 11	245/6 & 265/6

SECTION VI.—*continued.*

GROUP VI.—OTHER MANUFACTURING—*continued.*

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	s. d.	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*
Gas Making and Supply—						
Coke Trimmers ..	235 0	220 0	201 0	219 0	222 8	220 0
Gas Fitters ..	273 0	256 6	246 0	256 0	258 8	251 0
Labourers	222 0	214 0	201 0	210 0	222 8	214 0
Mainlayers	232 0	231 0	219 6	250/ & 265/	242 8	231 0
Metermakers ..	257 0	249 0	237 0	251 0	255 8	251 0
Meter Testers ..	236/ & 245/	243 0	215 0	236 0	235 8	234 0
Service Layers ..	251 0	237 0	219 6	256 0	242 8	237 0
Stokers	246 0	232 0	228 0	234 0	233 8	232 0
Glassfounding—						
Furnacemen ..	248 6	234/6 to 249/6	220/6 to 235/6	230/6 to 245/6	232/6 to 247/6	..
Labourers	220 0	218 0	204 0	214 0	216 0	..
Lehrmen	230 0	226 0	212 0	222 0	224 0	..
Sorters	231 0	223/6 & 230/	209/6 & 216/	219/6 & 226/	221/6 & 228/	..
Glass Working and Glazing						
Bevellers	264 6	246 6	232 6	242 6	247 2	246 6
Cutters and Glaziers ..	257 0	246 6	232 6	242 6	247 2	246 6
Lead Light Glaziers ..	257 0	246 6	240 0	242 6	247 2	246 6
Silverers	264 6	246 6	232 6	242 6	247 2	246 6
Jewellery, Clock and Watchmaking—						
Chainmakers ..	257 0	251 0	209 6	247 6	253 2	..
Engravers	265 0	251 0	209/6 & 215/	249 6	253 2	..
Mounters	257 0	251 0	209/6 & 215/	255 6	253 2	..
Setters	265 0	241 6	..	255 6	253 2	..
Watch and Clock-makers and Repairers	272 0	228/ & 253/	222 6	253 0	255 8	234/ & 264/
Masonry—Marble and Stone—						
Carvers	297 8	(*a*) 268 6	242 0	269 0	251 8	..
Machinists—						
Carborundum ..	271 0	(*a*)238/6 & 249/3	242 0	229/6 & 240/	228 8	253 0
Other	271 0	(*a*)238/6 & 249/3	242 0	229/6 & 240/	228 8	253 0
Masons	271 0	(*a*) 257 3	242 0	248 0	251 8	253 0
Paper Bag Making—						
Guillotine Cutters ..	245 6	237 6	223 6	233 6	235 6	237 6
Machinists	245/6 & 253/	237/6 & 245/	223/6 & 231/	233/6 & 241/	235/6 & 243/	237/6 & 245/
Paper Making—						
Beatermen	281 6	271/6 to 285/	..	..	..	280 0
Breakermen ..	250 6	242 6	..	..	..	..
Guillotine Men ..	253 0	245 0	..	..	..	246 6
Machinists	291 0	278/ to 310/	..	..	..	280/ to 305/
Ragboilermen ..	249 6	240 0	..	..	..	..
Other Adults ..	238 0	230 0	..	..	..	225 0
Potteries—General—						
Burners—Head ..	236 0	230 0	211 6	224/6 & 227 6	230 8	235 0
Hollow-ware Pressers	242 0	223 0	203 0	217 0	..	245 0
Sanitary Pressers ..	248 0	224 0	203 0	217 0	219/2 & 227/2	245 0
Throwers—1st Class ..	249/ to 252/	232 0	214 0	236/ & 251/	..	248 0
Potteries—Pipemaking—						
Burners—Head ..	243 0	230 0	210 6	236 6	233 2	235 0
Drawers	244 6	221 0	200 6	226 6	229 8	..
Moulders	247 6	214 0	197 6	236 6	232 2	232 6
Mould Makers ..	247 6	232 0	203 0	223 0	229 8	..
Setters	244 6	227 0	199 0	232/6 & 236/6	229 8	235 0
Quarrying—						
Borers—Hand or Machine ..	247 0	244 0	200 2	238 0	223 8	234 0
Dressers	255 8	254 6	203 10	231 6	223 8	228 0
Facemen	253 7	248 6	200 2	231 6	223 8	228 0
Hammermen ..	247 0	259 6	200 2	238 0	219 2	228 0
Machine Feeders ..	254 6	251 0	195/7 & 199/8	231 6	227 8	234 0
Quarrymen ..	255 8	..	203 10	231 6	219 2	235 6

(*a*) Not strictly comparable with rates for previous years which included certain special allowances in respect of annual leave.

SECTION VI.—*continued.*

GROUP VI.—OTHER MANUFACTURING—*continued.*

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
Rubber Working—	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*
Calendar Hands ..	242/ & 247/	234/ & 239/	209 0	232 6	..	..
Cycle Tyre Makers ..	224 0	216 0	..	..	..	227 6
Dough Mixers ..	224 0	216 0	202 6	216 6	..	..
Hosemakers ..	226/ to 233/	218/ to 225/	202 6	..	..	..
Mechanical Lathe Hands	226/ & 230/6	218/ & 222/6	202 6	218 6	..	..
Mill Hands ..	224/ & 233/	216/ & 225/	202 6	228 0	..	..
Spreaders	227/ & 233/	219/ & 225/	202/6 & 205/	..	..	..
Surgical, Packing, and other Makers ..	226/ & 235/	218/ & 227/	198/ & 202/6	..	..	..
Tyre Moulders ..	224/ & 230/6	216/ & 222/6	207 0	220 6	..	227 6
Saddlery and Harness Making—						
Harness Makers ..	247 0	239 0	225 0	235 0	241 8	239 0
Saddlers	247 0	239 0	225 0	235 0	241 8	239 0
Sailmaking—						
Sailmakers	247 0	239 0	225 0	235 0	..	239 0
Shipbuilding—						
Carpenters and Joiners	277 0	277 0	277 0	277 0	277 0	277 0
Dockers (*a*). . ..	223/ to 238/	223/ to 238/	223/ to 238/	223/ to 238/	223/ to 238/	223/ to 238/
Painters (*a*) ..	223/ to 238/	223/ to 238/	223/ to 238/	223/ to 238/	223/ to 238/	223/ to 238/
Shipwrights ..	260 6	260 6	260 6	260 6	260 6	260 6
Soap Making—						
General Hands ..	231 0	226/ to 231/6	203 6	227 0	213 8	210 0
Mixers	243 3	231/ to 236	203 6	224/ & 227/	..	210 0
Soap Makers ..	269 6	238 6	203 6	234 6	222 8	230 0
Tanning and Currying—						
Beamsmen	254 6	246 6	232 6	242 6	244 6	246 6
Curriers	270 6	262 6	248 6	258 6	260 6	262 6
Japanners or Enamellers	254 0	246 0	232 0	242 0	244 0	246 0
Limemen	247 6	239 6	225 6	235 6	237 6	239 6
Machinists—						
Fleshing	259 6	251 6	237 6	247 6	249 6	251 6
Scouring	245 6	237 6	223 6	233 6	235 6	237 6
Splitting	261/6 to 268/6	253/6 to 260/6	239/6 to 246/6	249/6 to 256/6	251/6 to 258/6	253/6 to 260/6
Unhairing ..	254 6	246 6	232 6	242 6	244 6	246 6
Rollers and Strikers ..	253/ & 255/6	245/ & 247/6	231/ & 233/6	241/ & 243/6	243/ & 245/6	245/ & 247/6
Tablemen	249/6 to 255/6	241/6 to 247/6	227/6 to 233/6	237/6 to 243/6	239/6 to 245/6	241/6 to 247/6
Tent and Tarpaulin Making—						
Cutters	241 0	233 0	219 0	229 0	..	233 0
Machinists	241 0	233 0	219 0	229 0	..	233 0
Sewers—Hand ..	241 0	233 0	219 0	229 0	..	233 0
Tent Makers ..	241 0	233 0	219 0	229 0	..	233 0

(*a*) Permanent rate.

GROUP VII.—BUILDING.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
Building—	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*
Bricklayers—						
Sewer and Tunnel ..	305 0	293 5	253 0	277 6	283 9	263/6 & 273/6
Surface	291 8	282 6	245 6	277 6	278 9	258 6
Carpenters	298 4	261 6	249 0	257 6	280 3	255 6
Labouring (Builders)(*a*)	232 6	224 6	224 6	220 6	234 4	224 6
Lathers	298 4	261 6	245 6	257 6	280 3	258 6
Metal Ceilers ..	298 4	261 6	249 0	257 6	280 3	258 6
Masons	271 0	(*b*) 257 3	242 0	277 6	277 3	258 6
Painters, Paperhangers	281 8	282 6	245 6	246 3	277 9	258 6
Signwriters ..	294 2	282 6	245 6	246 3	277 9	258 6

(*a*) Rate excludes allowances for statutory holidays, following the job and sick pay. (*b*) Not strictly comparable with rates for previous years which included certain special allowances in respect of annual leave.

SECTION VI.—*continued.*

GROUP VII.—BUILDING—*continued.*

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	s. d.	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*
Building—*continued.*—						
Plasterers—						
Sewer or Tunnel ..	303 4	280 6	253/ & 257/	276 10	283 9	263/6 & 273/6
Surface	290 0	276 8	245 6	276 10	278 9	258 6
Plumbers, Gasfitters ..	290 6	282 2	246 0	253 0	280 3	263 0
Slaters	273 0	282 6	245 6	..	246 8	..
Tilers (Roof) ..	273 0	282 6	245 6	246 6	246 8	..
Tuckpointers ..	291 8	282 6	245 6	277 6	..	..
Water Supply and Sewerage—						
Concrete Workers ..	245/3 to 254/5	244 0	205/ to 221/6	216 0	217/8 to 229/8	223/ & 226/
Labourers	239/1 to 249/10	224 0	196/ to 208/11	195 0	211 8	214 0
Miners—Sewer ..	[10]259/10 to 278/9	229/ to 239/	221/6 & 226/6	223/ & 235/	219/2 to 235/8	223/ & 235/
Pipe-jointers and Setters	249/10 to 255/1	239 0	201 6	216/ to 224/	229/8 & 240/8	226 0

GROUP VIII.—MINING.

Industry and Occupation.	N.S.W.	Victoria.	Queensland.	S. Aust.	W. Aust.	Tasmania.
	s. d.	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*
Coal-mining—						
Blacksmiths ..	265 3	259 6	239 2	..	293 1	254 10
Bracemen	261 1	242 6	228/ to 245/1	..	..	239 5
Carpenters	269 0	261 0	237/2 to 253/10	..	..	244 0
Deputies	309 8	276 11	282/8 to 298/1	..	[5]301 9	278 6
Engine Drivers—						
Winding and Loco.	262/10 to 284/5	248/11 to 253/6	236/ to 280/4	..	274 3	249/11 & 252/10
Other	249/5 to 261/11	248 6	230/7 to 256/5	..	..	241/2 to 249/11
Labourers—						
Surface	246 6	239/7 & 246/3	225/1 to 241/4	..	236 9	239 5
Underground ..	249 5	239/7 & 247/1	225/1 to 241/4	..	[5]245 6	239 5
Miners—						
Machine	(*a*)268/7 & 290/3	(*b*)	244/3 to 267/2	..	[5]283 7	261 1
Manual—Dry Work	(*a*) 268 7	(*a*) 252 6	(*b*)	..	[5]259 8	..
Platmen or Banksmen	246/6 & 266/1	256 3	225/1 to 241/4	..	[5]242 9	..
Shiftmen—						
Dry Work ..	268 7	256 3	238/ to 253/10	..	[5]259 8	253 2
Wet Work ..	276 1	263 9	247/3 to 263/1	..	..	260 8
Shotfirers	299 1	270 0	275/7 to 291/	..	[5]283 7	256 1
Timbermen	263/7 & 268/7	256 3	238/ to 253/10	..	[5]259 8	253 2
Weighmen ..	250 8	253 7	266 0	..	284 0	248 2
Wheelers	250/3 & 252/9	247 11	228/5 to 246/9	..	[5]248 3	239 5
Gold and Other Mining (except Coal)—					(*c*)	
Battery Feeders ..	232/ to 238/	212/ & 215/	201 4	227 0	258 5	222/ to 226/
Bracemen	234/ to 240/	222/ & 225/	206 10	236/ & 243/6	[3]263 5	232/ to 236/

(*a*) Piece-work rates normally operate for these occupations but minimum weekly wage rates are as shown. (*b*) Piece-work rates. (*c*) Excludes district allowances.

SECTION VI.—*continued.*

GROUP VIII.—MINING—*continued.*

Industry and Occupation.	N.S.W.	Victoria.	Queensland.	S. Aust.	W. Aust.	Tasmania.
	s. d.	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.* (*a*)	*s. d.*
Gold and Other Mining (except Coal)—*contd.*						
Engine Drivers—						
Stationary ..	216/ to 252/	233/ to 244/6	194/ to 251/	..	269/8 to 278/10	234/ to 243/
Winding and Loco.	222/ to 261/	234/ to 258/6	209/ to 241/	227 0	273/5 to 317/7	234/ to 243/
Firemen	211/6 to 228/	228/ & 233/	194/ to 213/9	..	260/1 to 268/10	222/ to 231/
Labourers	224/ to 233/	212/ & 215/	201 4	236 0	250 11	222/ to 231/
Miners—						
Machine	244/ to 260/6	220/ to 235/	206/10 to 215/	..	[3]270/11 to 280/11	233/ to 246/
Manual—						
Dry Work ..	244/ to 253/	226/ to 235/	206 10	236 0	[3]263/5 to 273/5	236/ to 240/
Wet Work ..	251/6 to 260/6	235/ to 244/	214 4	243 6	[3]272/5 to 282/5	243/6 to 247/6
Platmen	234/ to 247/6	222/ & 225/	206 10	..	[3]263 5	232/ to 237/
Shaft Sinkers—						
Dry Work ..	247/ to 253/	229/ & 235/	206 10	236 0	[3]268/5 to 280/11	242/ to 246/
Wet Work ..	254/6 to 260/6	238/ & 244/	214 4	243 6	[3]277/5 to 289/11	249/6 to 253/6
Timbermen	245/ to 263/6	229/ to 237/	215 0	236 0	[3]273/5 to 280/11	239/ to 248/

(*a*) Excludes district allowances.

GROUP IX.—RAILWAY AND TRAMWAY TRANSPORT.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	s. d.	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*
Railways—						
Engine Drivers (Loco.)—						
1st Class ..	296/ & 299/	277/ to 292/	269 1	273/ to 288/	281/8 to 289/8	275/ to 290/
2nd Class ..	290 0	274 0	250 9	270 0	272 8	272 0
3rd Class ..	281 0	265 0	252 1	261 0	262 2	263 0
4th Class ..	262 6	255 6	244 5	251 6	256 8	253 6
5th Class ..	256 0	249 0	244 5	245 0	256 8	247 0
Firemen—						
1st Class ..	249/ & 252/	235/ to 242/	225 0	231/ to 238/	248 8	233/ to 240/
2nd Class ..	246 0	229 0	218 10	225 0	236 8	227 0
3rd Class ..	242 0	223 0	218 10	219 0	229 8	221 0
Guards—						
1st Class ..	266 0	258 6	244 9	252 6	255 8	241/6 to 250/
2nd Class ..	257/ & 260/	241/ to 252/6	237 10	243/6 & 249/	249 8	237 0
3rd Class ..	252/ & 254/	241/ to 252/6	226 0	234/ & 237/	243 8	234 0
Porters	223/ to 254/	216/6 to 251/	204/10 to 208/9	212/ to 237/	208/8 to 228/8	214/ to 237/
Shunters—						
1st Class ..	[12]265/ & 269/	[12]257/ & 260/	246 3	244/ & 247/	243/8 to 249/8	241/6 & 245/6
2nd Class ..	[12]254/6 & 257/6	[12]249/6 & 252/6	237 5	237 0	237 8	234 0
3rd Class ..	[12]235/ to 251/	[12]230/ to 239/6	233 5	224/ to 234/	234 8	229 0
Ordinary ..	[12]235/ to 245/	[12]230/ to 239/6	217 7	224/ to 234/	234 8	226 0
Signalmen—						
Special	[12]284 0	[12]274 0	235/8 & 245/6	253/ & 262/	260 2	..
1st Class ..	[12]281 0	[12]263 6	233 8	236 0	246 8	237 0
2nd Class ..	273 0	250 6	227 10	240 0	237 8	234 0
3rd Class ..	265 0	242 6	220 10	232 0	227 2	229 0
4th Class ..	257 0	238 0	215 1	227 0	222 8	229 0

SECTION VI.—*continued.*

GROUP IX.—RAILWAY AND TRAMWAY TRANSPORT—*continued.*

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	s. d.	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*
Tramways (Electric)—						
Car Washers or Cleaners	220 0	222 0	199 7	209/ & 212/	213 8	216 0
Conductors—						
1st Year	225 0	222 0	198/6 & 201/6	212/ & 214/	232 8	217 6
2nd Year.. ..	234 0	228 0	201/6 & 205/	214 0	232 8	221 6
3rd Year ..	234 0	228 0	205/ & 211/	218 0	232 8	221 6
Labourers	215 0	216 0	196 0	210/ & 213/	205 8	216 0
Maintenance Men ..	224/ & 227/	225 0	196/ to 208/8	215/ & 218/	220 8	220 0
Motormen—						
1st Year	237 0	222 0	198/6 & 201/6	214 0	232 8	219 0
2nd Year ..	237 0	228 0	201/6 & 205/	217 0	232 8	223 0
3rd Year ..	237 0	228 0	205/ & 211/	220 0	232 8	223 0
Overhead Wiremen—						
Leading	257 6	239 0	252 0	235 0	250 2	232 0
Other	225/6 & 248/6	222 0	237 0	218 0	241 2	226 0
Pitmen	240 0	236 0	214/ & 217/	215/ to 223/	232 8	227 6
Signalmen	252/ to 255/	231/ & 239/	207/ & 211/	234/ & 239/	..	..
Track Cleaners ..	220 0	222 0	195 0	210/ & 213/	215/8 & 229/8	216 0

GROUP X.—OTHER LAND TRANSPORT.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	s. d.	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*
Carrying—Merchandise—						
Carriers—						
One Horse ..	238 0	222 6	211 0	218 6	221 2	222 6
Two Horses ..	243 0	230 6	216 0	226 6	228 8	230 6
Corporation Carters—						
One Horse ..	238 0	222 6	211 0	218 6	221 2	222 6
Two Horses ..	243 0	230 6	216 0	226 6	228 8	230 6
Jinkers—						
One Horse ..	238 0	232 0	218 0	228 0	230 8	232 0
Two Horses ..	243 0	239 6	223 0	235 6	235 8	239 6
Sanitary Carters ..	296/ & 301/	228 6	211 0	224 6	258 2	228 6
Stable Hands ..	237/6 & 242/6	217 0	204 0	213 0	217 8	217 0
Motor Lorries and Wagons—						
Under 3 tons ..	240/ to 250/	230/6 & 236/6	213/ to 221/	226/6 & 232/6	228/8 & 231/8	230/6 & 236/6
3 tons or over ..	254/ to 258/	241 0	225/ & 229/	237 0	235/8 to 240/8	241 0
Lift Attendants—						
Goods	228 0	225 0	196/ & 198/	215 6	216 2	..
Passenger	228 0	225 0	190/ & 192/	215 6	216 2	..

SECTION VI.—*continued.*

GROUP XI.—SHIPPING, WHARF LABOUR, ETC.

Industry and Occupation.	N.S.W.	Victoria.	Queensland.	S. Aust.	W. Aust.	Tasmania.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Waterside Working—						
Wharf Labourers per hour *a*	7 2½	7 2½	7 2½ to 7 7½	7 2½	7 2½	7 2½
			£ s. d.			
Passenger Vessels—Interstate *b*—						
Bakers per month			45/7/6 to 52/0/0(*c*)			
Barmen ,,			45/7/6(*d*)			
Butchers ,,			47/0/0 to 50/15/0(*c*)			
Cooks—						
Chief ,,			54/12/6 & 56/15/0(*c*)			
Second ,,			49/15/0 & 53/12/6(*c*)			
Third ,,			45/7/6(*c*)			
Ships ,,			48/12/6(*c*)			
Pantrymen ,,			46/10/0 & 47/0/0(*c*)			
Scullerymen ,,			44/0/0(*b*)			
Stewards—						
Chief Saloon ,,			58/5/0 to 66/5/0(*d*)			
Second ,,			49/5/0(*d*)			
Second Saloon ,,			47/12/6(*d*)			
Fore Cabin ,,			47/0/0(*d*)			
Bedroom and Other ,,			44/15/0 & 45/17/6(*d*)			
All Vessels—Interstate *c*—						
A.B. Seamen per month			47/2/6			
Boatswains ,,			48/2/6			
Donkeymen ,,			50/2/6			
Firemen ,,			49/2/6			
Greasers ,,			49/2/6			
Lamp Trimmers ,,			48/2/6			
Fuel Trimmers ,,			47/2/6			
		Vessels (Steam)		*Vessels (Steam).*		
Marine Engineers *b e f*—		100 *N.H.P. and under.*		*Over* 100 *N.H.P.*		
Chief per month		65/13/0 to 69/13/0		71/16/0 to 99/7/0		
Second ,,		60/14/0		60/14/0 to 71/14/0		
Third ,,		56/17/0		56/17/0 to 64/2/0		
Fourth ,,		..		53/5/6 to 60/10/0		
Fifth and under ,,		..		52/13/6		
		Seagoing Passenger Vessels.		Seagoing Cargo Vessels.		
Merchant Service *b f g*—		125 Tons or under.	Over 10,000 tons.	60 tons or under.	Over 10,000 tons	
Masters per month		66/8/6	147/4/0	60/0/6	115/6/0	
Officers—						
Chief ,,		58/9/6	71/14/0	55/9/6	67/4/0	
Second ,,		55/7/6	66/12/0	52/17/6	63/2/0	
Third ,,		..	61/0/0	..	58/0/0	
4th, 5th and 6th ,,		..	52/13/6	..	52/13/6	

(*a*) Rates of wage quoted are for other than special cargo. (*b*) Rates of wage quoted are in addition to victualling and accommodation. (*c*) Not more than 8 hours per day. (*d*) Not more than 8 hours per day within a spread of 15 consecutive hours when at sea, between 7 a.m. and 5 p.m. in terminal ports and between 6 a.m. and 5 p.m. in intermediate ports. (*e*) Minimum rates under the Commonwealth Award are classified according to nominal horse-power of vessels. (*f*) Ordinary length of duty in a day at sea or in port or partly at sea and partly in port shall be 8 hours. (*g*) Minimum rates under the Commonwealth Award are classified for interstate vessels, and for vessels within a State according to tonnage; the lowest and highest classes for interstate passenger and cargo vessels are here given.

GROUP XII.—PASTORAL, AGRICULTURAL, ETC.

Industry and Occupation.	N.S.W.	Victoria.	Queensland.	S. Aust.	W. Aust.	Tasmania.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Farming—(*a*)						
Harvesters	..	..	..	..	..	..
Milkers	..	[14]229 0	..	..	..	..
Chaffcutting—						
Feeders (Travelling plant)	247 0	229 6	..	214 0	212/8 to 240/2	[8]275 0
Feeders (Stationary mill)	247 0	223 6	..	214 0	212/8 to 240/2	[8]275 0

(*a*) Rates for farming in previous years were from awards made under National Security Regulations which are no longer effective.

SECTION VI.—*continued.*

GROUP XII.—PASTORAL, AGRICULTURAL, ETC.—*continued.*

Industry and Occupation.	N.S.W.	Victoria.	Queensland.	S. Aust.	W. Aust.	Tasmania.
Gardening—	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*
Gardeners	236 6	227 0	199 0	217 0	219 8	223 0
Gardeners' Labourers	230 0	217 0	191 6	212 0	213 8	217 0
Nurserymen ..	236 6	224/6 & 235/	199 0	218 6	223 8	223 0
Nurserymens' Labourers ..	230 0	208 0	191 6	212 0	213 8	217 0
Pastoral Workers(*a*)—						
Cooks	583 1	583 1	657/2 & 681/9	583 1	570 1	583 1
Shearers—						
Hand .. per 100	171 6	171 6	154 6	171 6	159 3	171 0
Machine ,,	159 6	159 6	154 6	159 6	148 3	159 0
Shed Hands ..	373 0	373 0	447 10	373 0	391 8	373 0
Wool Pressers ..	403 0	403 0	517 9	403 0	431 0	403 0
Rural Workers—						
Fruit Harvesters ..	7208/ to 210/	7207/ to 210/	..	7205/ to 210/	..	7207/ & 208/

(*a*) Shearers' and woolpressers' hours are 40 per week; shed hands' hours are the same as shearers, with such additional time as may be necessary to finish picking up fleeces, &c. Should the time engaged picking up, &c., exceed 30 minutes per day, all time thereafter must be paid as overtime. The hours of cooks are not regulated. Rates for shearers, shed hands and woolpressers are "not found" rates.

GROUP XIII.—DOMESTIC, HOTELS, ETC.

NOTE.—The rates of wage specified for employees in Hotels and Restaurants represent the weekly cash payment where board and lodging are *not* provided.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
Cooks (Hotels)—	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*
Chefs	243/ to 277/	235/ to 269/	223/ & 229/	230/ to 264/6	240/8 & 250/8	235/ to 269/
Cooks—Second ..	237/ to 259/6	229/ to 251/6	214 0	229/ to 245/	225/2 & 230/8	229/ to 251/6
Cooks—Third ..	237 0	229 0	214 0	225 0	220 8	229 0
Kitchenmen ..	227 0	219 0	201 6	200 0	210 8	219 0
Hairdressing—						
Hairdressers ..	247 0	238 0	207/6 & 215/	248 0	245 8	246 0
Hotels—						
Barmen	237 0	229 0	211 0	231 0	235 8	229 0
Billiard Markers ..	227 0	219 0	199 0	200 0	210 8	219 0
Handymen ..	227 0	219 0	199 0	200 0	210 8	219 0
Lift Attendants ..	227 0	225 0	190 0	215 6	210 8	219 0
Porters—Day Work ..	227 0	219 0	199 0	202 0	215 8	219 0
Porters—Night Work	227 0	219 0	206 0	202 0	220 8	219 0
Waiters—Head ..	237 0	229 0	204 0	214/6 & 215/6	..	229 0
Waiters—Other ..	227 0	219 0	199 0	208 0	215 8	219 0
Restaurants—						
Pantrymen ..	222 6	216 0	195 6	198 6	210 8	212 6
Waiters	222/6 & 225/	216 0	195 6	205 0	215 8	209/ & 212/6

GROUP XIV.—MISCELLANEOUS AND GENERAL LABOUR.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
Factory Engine Driving—						
Engine Drivers (Stationary)—	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.* (*a*)	*s. d.*
1st Class ..	244/ & 250/6	236/ & 242/6	225 0	232/ & 238/6	236 6	236/ & 242/6
2nd Class ..	239/ & 244/	231/ & 236/	214 0	227/ & 232/	236 6	231/ & 236/
3rd Class ..	239/ & 244/	231/ & 236/	203 6	227/ & 232/	231 6	231/ & 236/
Firemen—						
1st Class ..	239 0	231 0	199 0	227 0	231 6	231 0
2nd Class ..	234 0	226 0	..	222 0	226 6	226 0
Greasers	230/ & 239/	222/ & 231/	199 0	218/ & 227/	221 8	222/ & 231/
Trimmers	226 0	218 0	195 0	214 0	218 6	218 0

(*a*) Not comparable with previous years. Rates shown are those for the sawmilling industry.

SECTION VI.—*continued.*

GROUP XIV.—MISCELLANEOUS AND GENERAL LABOUR—*continued.*

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	s. d.	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*
Municipal—						
Labourers	230 0	218 0	196 0	200 0	208 2	214 0
Street Sweepers ..	230 0	224 0	196 0	207/ & 209/	208/2 to 214/8	217 0
Shop and other Assistants–						
Boot Salesmen ..	249 0	236 0	217 0	222 0	238 2	236 6
Chemists' Assistants	278 0	284 6	262 6	228 0	230/ & 240/11	250/ & 255/
Clerks	235/6 to 247/	237 6	222 6	222 0	242 8	208/ to 248/
Drapery Salesmen ..	249 0	236 0	217 0	222 0	238 2	236 6
Furniture Salesmen ..	249 0	239 0	217 0	222 0	238 2	211/ to 248/
Grocery Salesmen ..	249 0	232 0	217 0	217 0	238 2	214/6 to 237/6
Hardware Salesmen ..	249 0	236 0	217 0	222 0	238 2	203/ to 243/
Railway Bookstall Assistants ..	249 0	226 6	217 0	222 0	238 2	203/ to 243/
Tobacconists' Assts.	249 0	236 0	217 0	216 0	238 2	239 0
Storemen—Packing, Cleaning, &c.—						
Night Watchmen ..	233 6	219 0	193 0	207 6	233 2	..
Office Cleaners ..	238 0	216 0	190/ & 195/	195 0	221 8	217 0
Packers—General ..	239/6 & 242/6	240 0	207 0	226 0	233 2	225 0
Storemen—General ..	238/ & 240/6	240 0	207 0	226 0	233 2	225 0
Wholesale Grocery—						
Packers	237 0	232/ & 234/6	207 0	221 0	233 2	225 0
Storemen	234 0	232/ & 234/6	207 0	221 0	233 2	225 0
Wholesale Hardware—						
Packers	237/ & 240/	229 0	207 0	221 0	233 2	225 0
Storemen	234/ & 237/	229 0	207 0	221 0	233 2	225 0

SECTION VII.

Minimum Rates of Wage for Adult Female Workers in the Main Occupations in the Capital City of Each State for a Full Week's Work (excluding Overtime) at 31st December, 1951.

(*See Explanatory Note at top of page* 163.)

NOTE.—The hours of work (constituting a full week's work) for all occupations shown hereunder are 40 per week.

GROUP III.—FOOD, DRINK, TOBACCO, ETC.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	s. d.	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*
Biscuit Making—						
Adult Females ..	157 0	168 9	149 0	173 3	133 8	149 0
Confectionery—						
Adult Females ..	168 0	162 9	132 6	173 3	137 3	162 9
Jam Making and Preserving—						
Fillers	175 9	175 9	152 0	175 9	145 3	175 9
Other Adults ..	166 9	166 9	152 0	166 9	145 3	166 9
Tea Packing—						
Head Women ..	..	178 0	152/4 to 168/4	..	..	..
Other Adults ..	155 0	160 6	147 4	159 3	133 8	..
Tobacco Working (Cigars)—						
Ringers	157 0	149 0	131/ to 146/6	..	133 8	..
Wrapper Leaf Strippers	160/ & 170/	156 6	131/ to 146/6	..	133 8	..

GROUP IV.—CLOTHING, TEXTILES, ETC.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	s. d.	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*
Bootmaking—						
Machinists–Wax Thread	173/ & 175/6	173/ & 175/6	173/ & 175/6	173/ & 175/6	173/ & 175/6	173/ & 175/6
Other Adults ..	168 0	168 0	168 0	168 0	168 0	168 0
Dressmaking—						
Adult Females ..	156/ to 186/	156/ to 186/	156/ to 186/	156/ to 186/	156/ to 186/	156/ to 186/
Dyers and Cleaners—						
Adult Females ..	156 0	156 0	156 0	156 0	156 0	156 0
Hat Making (Straw)—						
Finishers & Machinists	155 0	171 0	171 0	171 0	171 0	171 0
Millinery—						
Adult Females ..	156 0	156 0	156 0	156 0	156 0	156 0
Shirt Making—						
Adult Females ..	156 0	156 0	156 0	156 0	156 0	156 0
Tailoring (Order)—						
Machinists—						
Coat Hands ..	186 0	186 0	186 0	186 0	186 0	186 0
Trousers, Vest Hands	173 6	173 6	173 6	173 6	173 6	173 6
Tailoresses—						
Coat Hands ..	202 0	202 0	202 0	202 0	202 0	202 0
Trousers, Vest Hands	173 6	173 6	173 6	173 6	173 6	173 6
Tailoring (Ready Made)—						
Machinists—						
Coat Hands ..	176 0	176 0	176 0	176 0	176 0	176 0
Trousers, Vest Hands	171 0	171 0	171 0	171 0	171 0	171 0
Tailoresses—						
Coat Hands ..	176 0	176 0	176 0	176 0	176 0	176 0
Trousers, Vest Hands	171 0	171 0	171 0	171 0	171 0	171 0
Textile Working (Woollen Mills)—						
Comb Minders ..	167 0	167 0	149 3	161 6	167 0	167 0
Darners and Menders	166/ & 169/	166/ & 169/	149 3	160/6 & 163/6	166/ & 169/	166/ & 169/
Warpers	169 0	169 0	149 3	163 6	169 0	169 0
Weavers—Loom ..	172 0	172 0	149 3	166 6	172 0	172 0
Other Adults ..	154 0	154 0	149 3	148 6	154 0	154 0
Underclothing—						
Adult Females ..	156/ to 186/	156/ to 186/	156/ to 186/	156/ to 186/	156/ to 186/	156/ to 186/

SECTION VII.—*continued.*

GROUPS I., II., V., AND VI.—PRINTING AND OTHER MANUFACTURING.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
Bedding and Furniture—	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*
Bedding Machinists ..	158 6	169 0	139 2	166 0	146 3	169 0
Picture Frame Workers	163 6	156 6	168/7 & 202/7	153 6	146 3	156 6
Bookbinding						
Folders and Sewers ..	179 0	173 0	162 6	170 0	171 6	173 0
Brushmaking—						
Adult Females ..	166 6	153/6 & 155/6	125 0	177 9	133 8	..
Candle and Soap Making—						
Adult Females ..	155 0	161 6	148 10	158 9	133 8	157 3
Cardboard Box Making—						
Box Makers ..	177/ & 183/6	171/ & 177/6	160/6 & 167/	168/ & 174/6	169/6 & 176/	171/ & 177/6
Other Adults ..	167/6 to 179/6	161/6 to 173/6	151/ to 163/	158/6 to 170/6	160/ to 172/	161/6 to 173/6
Jewellery—						
Chainmakers ..	257 0	165 0	146 6	..	135 3	..
Gilders	168 6	165 0	136 6	187 0	135 3	..
Polishers	168 6	165 0	136 6	187 0	135 3	..
Scratch Brushers ..	168 6	165 0	136 6	187 0	135 3	..
Leather Goods—						
Adult Females ..	171 0	165 0	154 6	162 0	141 3	165 0
Paper Making—						
Adult Females ..	157 0	151 0	..	..	..	151 0
Paper Bag Making—						
Adult Females ..	167/6 to 177/	161/6 to 171/	151/ to 160/6	158/6 to 168/	160/ to 169/6	161/6 to 171/
Potteries—						
Adult Females ..	157 0	149 0	130 0	..	133 8	..
Printing—						
Jobbing Office Assistants	179 0	173 0	162 6	170 0	171 6	173 0
Lithographic Feeders	179 0	173 0	162 6	170 0	171 6	173 0
Rubber Working—						
Adult Females ..	160 0	154 0	141 6	167 6	..	..
Tent and Tarpaulin Making—						
Machinists	171 0	165 0	154 6	162 0	133 8	165 0

GROUP XIII.—DOMESTIC, HOTELS, ETC.

NOTE.—The rates of wage mentioned herein for employees in Hotels and Restaurants represent the weekly cash payment where board and lodging are *not* provided.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
Hotels—	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*
Barmaids	185 0	229 0	159 0	..	235 8	179 0
Housemaids ..	169 0	163 0	139 6	162 6	153 8	163 0
Laundresses ..	173 0	167 0	145 6	169 0	153 8	167 0
Waitresses—Head ..	175 0	169 0	144 6	167 6	..	169 0
,, Other ..	169 0	163 0	139 6	162 6	153 8	163 0
Laundries—						
General Hands ..	155 0	149 0	135 6	170 0	135 3	145 6
Machinists—Shirt and Collar	156 6	156 0	135 6	173/ & 177/	135 3	145 6
Sorters	156 6	149 0	135 6	173/ & 177/	135 3	145 6
Starchers	155 0	156 0	135 6	173/ & 177/	135 3	145 6
Washers	155 0	156/ & 208/	135 6	173/ & 207/6	135 3	156/6 & 166/6
Office Cleaning—						
Adult Females ..	162/ to 170/	198 0	143/ & 146/	146/ & 152/	139 8	..
Restaurants—						
Pantry Maids ..	155 0	158 0	133 6	160 6	151 2	162 6
Waitresses ..	155 0	158 0	133 6	162 0	153 8	159 0

SECTION VII.—*continued.*

GROUP XIV.—SHOP ASSISTANTS, CLERKS, ETC.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	s. d.	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*
Clerks, &c.—						
Cashiers	177 0	172 6	166 0	173 0	165 9	149 0
Clerical Assistants ..	175 0	172 6	166 0	173 0	165 9	149 0
Saleswomen—						
Boot	177/ & 249/	164 6	152 0	168 0	160 2	153/ & 181/10
Drapery	177/ & 249/	164/6 & 236/	152/ & 217/	168/ & 220/	160 2	153/ & 181/10
Fruit and Confectionery	164/ & 177/	160 6	152 0	168 0	160 2	149 0
Newsagent and Bookstall	177 0	149/6 & 153/6	152 0	168 0	160 2	151 0
Tobacconists ..	177 0	176 6	152 0	167 0	160 2	149 0

SECTION VIII.

Weekly Rates of Wage and Hours of Labour : Australia, Great Britain and New Zealand.

(Wages are quoted in the currency of the country concerned.)

Industry and Occupation.	AUSTRALIA (SYDNEY).				GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND (LONDON).				NEW ZEALAND (AUCKLAND).			
	31st December, 1938.		31st December, 1951.		31st December, 1938.		31st December, 1951.		31st December, 1938.		31st December, 1951.	
	Rates of Wage.	No. of Hours.	Rates of Wage.	No. of Hours.	Rates of Wage.	No. of Hours.	Rates of Wage.	No. of Hours.	Rates of Wage.	No. of Hours.	Rates of Wage.	No. of Hours.
	s. d.		*s. d.*		*s. d.*		*s. d.*		*s. d.*		*s. d.*	
Furniture—												
Cabinet Maker	107 0	44	257 0	40	82 3	47	150 4	44	110 0	40	188 5	40
Upholsterer	107 0	44	257 0	40	82 3	47	150 4	44	110 0	40	188 5	40
French Polisher	107 0	44	257 0	40	82 3	47	150 4	44	110 0	40	188 5	40
Sawmilling—												
Machinist, Planing	91 0 and 100 0	44	238 6 and 253 6	40	..	..	..	..	103 4	40	197 5	40
Machinist, Shaping	105 0	44	253 6	40	..	..	..	..	103 4	40	197 5	40
Sawyer, Band or Jig	95 0 to 108 0	44	238 0 to 259 0	40	..	..	..	..	96 8	40	185 0	40
Sawyer, Circular	95 0 to 102 0	44	239 0 and 251 6	40	..	..	..	..	112 6	40	205 1	40
Engineering, and Metal Working—												
Fitter and Turner	108 0 and 112 0	44	259 0	40	70 11	47	133 $7\frac{1}{4}$	44	110 0	40	192 3	40
Patternmaker	120 0	44	272 0	40	71 3	47	(*a*)	(*a*)	110 0	40	192 3	40
Moulder (Iron)	90 0 to 111 0	44	235 0 to 259 0	40	70 11	44	138 $3\frac{1}{2}$	44	110 0	40	188 8	40
Tinsmith	101 6	44	244 0 and 259 0	40	..	..	..	..	110 0	40	184 0	40
Milling (Flour)—												
Miller (shift)	97 0 to 107 6	41	259 0 to 284 0	40	71 0 and 73 0	42	144 0	42	99 4 (*b*)	40	185 11 (*b*)	40
Packerman	85 0	44	244 0	40	..	..	..	..	95 4	40	181 2	40

(*a*) Not yet available. (*b*) Kilnman.

SECTION VIII.—*continued.*

WEEKLY RATES OF WAGE AND HOURS OF LABOUR: AUSTRALIA, GREAT BRITAIN AND NEW ZEALAND—*continued.*

Industry and Occupation.	AUSTRALIA (SYDNEY).				GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND (LONDON).				NEW ZEALAND (AUCKLAND).			
	31st December, 1938.		31st December, 1951.		31st December, 1938.		31st December, 1951.		31st December, 1938.		31st December, 1951.	
	Rates of Wage.	No. of Hours.	Rates of Wage.	No. of Hours.	Rates of Wage.	No. of Hours.	Rates of Wage.	No. of Hours.	Rates of Wage.	No. of Hours.	Rates of Wage.	No. of Hours.
	s. d.		*s. d.*		*s. d.*		*s. d.*		*s. d.*		*s. d.*	*s. d.*
Bootmaker	104 0	44	244 0	40	51 6 to 58 0	45	116 0	45	91 8	40	185 11	40
Tailoring (Ready-made)—												
Cutter	101 0	44	258 0	40	..	..	..	..	102 6	40	185 11	40
Presser (Coat)	98 0	44	247 0	40	..	..	..	..	92 6	40	180 2	40
Trimmer	98 0	44	247 0	40	..	..	..	..	92 6	40	185 11	40
Bookbinding—												
Bookbinder	108 0	44	265 0	40	80 0	45	165 0	43½	107 6	40	193 7	40
Paper Ruler	108 0	44	265 0	40	80 0	45	165 0	43½	107 6	40	193 7	40
Printing (Daily Newspaper)—												
Compositor (Day Work) ..	131 0	44	333 0 to 340 6	40	89 0	45	(*a*)	(*a*)	107 6	40	193 7	40
Reader (Day Work)	139 6	44	300 6 to 308 0	40	..	..	..	..	112 6	40	207 0	40
Printing (Jobbing Offices)—												
Compositor	108 0 and 117 0	44	265 0 to 275 6	40	89 0	45	165 0	43½	107 6	40	193 7 and 210 10	40
Linotype Operator (Day Work)..	117 0	44	275 6	40	..	..	..	..	115 0	40	202 3	40
Building—												
Bricklayer	121 0	44	291 8	40	77 0	44	141 2 and 143 0	44	115 0	40	191 5	40
Carpenter	121 0	44	298 4	40	77 0	44	141 2 and 143 0	44	112 6	40	192 7	40

(*a*) Not yet available.

SECTION VIII.—*continued.*

WEEKLY RATES OF WAGE AND HOURS OF LABOUR: AUSTRALIA, GREAT BRITAIN, AND NEW ZEALAND—*continued.*

Industry and Occupation.	AUSTRALIA (SYDNEY).				GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND (LONDON).				NEW ZEALAND (AUCKLAND).			
	31st December, 1938.		31st December, 1951.		31st December, 1938.		31st December, 1951.		31st December, 1938.		31st December, 1951.	
	Rates of Wage.	No. of Hours.	Rates of Wage.	No. of Hours.	Rates of Wage.	No. of Hours.	Rates of Wage.	No. of Hours.	Rates of Wage.	No. of Hours.	Rates of Wage.	No. of Hours.
Building—*continued.*	*s. d.*		*s. d.*		*s. d.*		*s. d.*		*s. d.*		*s. d.*	
Labourer—Carpenter's ..	87 0	44	232 6*	40	57 9	44	121 0 and 122 10	44	93 4	40	180 2	40
Concrete Worker ..	87 0	44	232 6*	40	(*a*)	(*a*)	121 0 and 122 10	44	93 4	40	180 2	40
Earth Excavator ..	87 0	44	232 6*	40	(*a*)	(*a*)	121 0 and 122 10	44	93 4	40	180 2	40
Painter	114 4	44	281 8	40	73 4	44	141 2 and 143 0	44	110 0	40	189 3	40
Paperhanger	114 4	44	281 8	40	77 0	44	141 2 and 143 0	44	110 0	40	189 3	40
Plasterer	121 0	44	290 0	40	77 0	44	141 2 and 143 0	44	115 0	40	194 2	40
Plumber	125 0	44	290 6	40	77 0	44	141 2 and 143 0	44	110 0	40	196 8	40
Tramways—												
Conductor—												
1st year	87 0	44	225 0	40	73 0 to 82 0	48	133 6	44	95 10 and 100 0	40	170 7 and 174 5	40
2nd year	90 0	44	234 0	40			140 6	44			174 5	40
3rd year	93 0	44	234 0	40			140 6	44			174 5	40
Motormen—												
1st year	99 0	44	237 0	40	73 0 to 82 0	48	133 6	44	100 0 and 103 4	40	182 1	40
2nd year	99 0	44	237 0	40			142 6	44			182 1	40
3rd year	99 0	44	237 0	40			142 6	44			182 1	40
Carrying (Merchandise)—												
Carter (1 horse)	92 0	44	238 0	40	60 0 and 61 0	48	115 0	44	93 0	40	164 4	40
Municipal—Labourer	94 6	44	230 0	40	58 8 to 64 6	47	122 10	44	90 0	40	176 4	40

* Rate excludes allowances for statutory holidays, following the job and sick pay. (*a*) Not available.

SECTION IX.

Basic Wage Rates—1923 to 1952.

(Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration).

The following table shows the basic weekly wage rates prescribed for adult males under periodical decisions of the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration including automatic variations made in accordance with quarterly changes in the retail price index for the city or combination of cities shown at the head of the table. The amount *legally* payable in any specific instance must be determined by reference to the appropriate award.

(1) The rates of wages shown include " Powers 3s." (or the equivalent thereof) and Prosperity Loadings, where applicable.

(2) The 10 per cent. reduction operative from February, 1931, to May, 1934, has been applied.

(3) Generally the rates operated from the beginning of the first pay-period commencing in the month indicated.

Date Operative.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.	Six Capitals.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
1923—							
February ..	82 6	82 0	73 0	78 0	73 6	81 6	80 6
May	,,	81 6	73 6	79 6	74 0	83 0	,,
August ..	86 6	87 6	75 0	84 0	79 6	87 6	85 0
November ..	89 0	91 6	76 0	85 6	78 0	89 0	87 6
1924—							
February ..	87 0	87 6	77 6	84 0	76 0	89 6	85 0
May	86 0	85 6	77 0	,,	78 0	,,	84 6
August ..	85 6	85 0	75 0	85 6	78 6	88 6	84 0
November ..	84 6	84 6	,,	84 0	79 0	88 0	83 0
1925—							
February ..	85 0	84 0	74 0	83 6	79 6	87 0	83 6
May	86 0	85 6	75 0	85 0	81 0	,,	84 6
August ..	87 0	87 0	76 6	87 6	82 6	,,	85 6
November ..	88 0	87 6	77 0	86 0	81 0	85 6	86 0
1926—							
February ..	89 6	,,	78 6	85 6	77 6	86 0	86 6
May	90 6	88 6	82 0	86 6	81 6	89 0	88 0
August ..	92 6	92 0	,,	89 6	84 0	,,	90 6
November ..	91 6	89 0	82 6	85 6	81 6	88 6	88 6
1927—							
February ..	,,	88 6	83 0	84 6	80 0	87 0	88 0
May	90 6	87 6	80 6	86 0	,,	86 6	87 6
August ..	89 6	87 0	78 6	,,	80 6	85 6	86 6
November ..	90 6	90 0	79 6	88 0	79 6	85 0	88 0
1928—							
February ..	93 0	89 6	80 6	87 0	80 0	84 0	89 0
May	91 6	88 0	79 6	87 6	,,	82 6	88 0
August ..	92 0	87 6	,,	,,	84 0	83 0	,,
November ..	90 6	86 0	79 0	85 0	85 0	82 6	87 0
1929—							
February ..	91 0	,,	80 0	84 0	,,	83 0	,,
May	95 0	89 6	81 6	88 0	86 0	86 0	90 6
August ..	94 6	90 0	80 6	88 6	86 6	85 6	,,
November ..	95 0	,,	,,	,,	85 6	86 0	,,
1930—							
February ..	95 6	,,	81 0	87 0	83 6	86 6	,,
May	92 0	86 0	77 6	84 0	82 6	84 0	87 0
August ..	91 0	85 6	73 0	82 6	82 0	,,	86 0
November ..	88 0	83 0	70 6	78 0	79 0	82 0	83 0

SECTION IX.—*continued.*

Date Operative.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.	Six Capitals.
	s. d.	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*
1931—							
February ..	76 6	70 2	60 9	66 2	66 2	70 2	71 1
May	74 3	68 5	60 9	64 4	66 7	68 10	69 4
August ..	72 11	65 8	60 4	62 1	65 8	67 1	67 6
November ..	70 8	63 5	58 6	58 1	62 1	64 4	65 3
1932—							
February ..	68 10	,,	,,	,,	60 9	64 10	64 4
May	,,	63 11	,,	58 11	61 8	65 3	64 10
August ..	68 5	63 0	57 7	58 6	,,	65 8	63 11
November ..	67 6	61 8	56 8	57 2	59 5	64 4	63 0
1933—							
February ..	66 7	60 4	55 10	55 4	58 1	63 5	61 8
May	67 10	63 4	59 4	59 2	59 9	64 10	64 2
August ..	66 11	62 5	58 10	,,	58 10	63 10	63 4
November ..	,,	62 10	59 4	59 7	60 3	63 11	,,
1934—							
February ..	,,	63 4	,,	60 2	59 3	64 10	63 9
May	67 0	64 0	61 0	*64 0	66 0	*67 0	65 0
June	68 0	,,	62 0	*65 0	,,	* ,,	66 0
September ..	,,	,,	,,	* ,,	68 0	*67 0	,,
December ..	,,	,,	,,	* ,,	,,	* ,,	,,
1935—							
March ..	,,	66 0	,,	* ,,	,,	*69 0	,,
June	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,
September ..	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,
December ..	70 0	,,	64 0	67 0	,,	,,	68 0
1936—							
March ..	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,
June	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,
September ..	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,
December ..	,,	69 0	66 0	69 0	71 0	,,	,,
1937—							
March ..	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	70 0
June	72 0	,,	68 0	,,	,,	,,	,,
July	75 0	72 0	71 0	70 0	72 0	72 0	73 0
September ..	,,	73 0	70 0	71 0	73 0	73 0	,,
October ..	78 0	76 0	73 0	73 0	75 0	75 0	75 0
December ..	,,	77 0	74 0	74 0	,,	,,	76 0
1938—							
March ..	79 0	,,	,,	75 0	74 0	76 0	77 0
June	,,	,,	75 0	,,	75 0	,,	,,
September ..	80 0	78 0	,,	76 0	76 0	,,	,,
December ..	81 0	79 0	,,	,,	,,	,,	78 0
1939—							
March ..	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,
June	82 0	81 0	77 0	78 0	77 0	77 0	79 0
September ..	81 0	,,	76 0	,,	,,	,,	,,
December ..	82 0	80 0	,,	77 0	,,	,,	,,
1940—							
February ..	,,	81 0	77 0	,,	,,	78 0	80 0
May	83 0	82 0	78 0	78 0	,,	,,	,,
August ..	85 0	84 0	79 0	80 0	79 0	80 0	82 0
November ..	,,	,,	,,	,,	80 0	81 0	83 0
1941—							
February ..	88 0	86 0	82 0	82 0	81 0	83 0	85 0
May	,,	87 0	83 0	83 0	82 0	84 0	86 0
August ..	89 0	,,	,,	,,	84 0	85 0	,,
November ..	,,	88 0	84 0	84 0	85 0	,,	87 0

* Except in special cases these rates were subject to graduated deductions so that the increase granted in May, 1934, was, in effect, introduced in stages over the succeeding twelve months.

SECTION IX.—*continued.*

Date Operative.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.	Six Capitals.
	s. d.	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*
1942—							
February ..	91 0	89 0	86 0	86 0	86 0	87 0	88 0
May	93 0	92 0	88 0	88 0	87 0	88 0	90 0
August ..	95 0	94 0	89 0	91 0	89 0	91 0	93 0
November ..	97 0	97 0	91 0	93 0	91 0	92 0	95 0
1943—							
February ..	98 0	98 0	,,	,,	92 0	94 0	96 0
May	,,	,,	92 0	,,	,,	,,	,,
August ..	100 0	99 0	94 0	94 0	94 0	95 0	98 0
November ..	99 0	98 0	93 0	,,	,,	,,	97 0
1944—							
February ..	,,	97 0	,,	93 0	93 0	94 0	96 0
May	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,
August ..	,,	98 0	,,	,,	,,	93 0	,,
November ..	,,	,,	,,	,,	94 0	94 0	,,
1945—							
February ..	,,	,,	,,	,,	93 0	,,	,,
May	98 0	,,	,,	,,	,,	93 0	,,
August ..	,,	,,	,,	,,	94 0	,,	,,
November ..	99 0	,,	,,	,,	,,	94 0	,,
1946—							
February ..	,,	,,	,,	94 0	,,	95 0	,,
May	,,	,,	94 0	,,	,,	,,	97 0
August ..	100 0	99 0	,,	95 0	95 0	96 0	98 0
November ..	101 0	,,	,,	,,	,,	97 0	,,
December ..	108 0	106 0	101 0	102 0	102 0	103 0	105 0
1947—							
February ..	,,	107 0	103 0	,,	103 0	104 0	106 0
May	110 0	,,	104 0	103 0	,,	,,	,,
August ..	,,	108 0	,,	104 0	104 0	105 0	107 0
November ..	112 0	109 0	105 0	106 0	106 0	107 0	109 0
1948—							
February ..	114 0	113 0	107 0	108 0	107 0	110 0	111 0
May	116 0	115 0	110 0	111 0	110 0	112 0	114 0
August ..	120 0	117 0	113 0	114 0	112 0	115 0	116 0
November ..	122 0	120 0	115 0	116 0	116 0	118 0	119 0
1949—							
February ..	124 0	123 0	118 0	119 0	118 0	121 0	122 0
May	127 0	125 0	119 0	121 0	120 0	124 0	124 0
August ..	130 0	128 0	122 0	124 0	126 0	127 0	127 0
November ..	132 0	130 0	125 0	126 0	129 0	128 0	129 0
1950—							
February ..	135 0	134 0	127 0	129 0	131 0	131 0	133 0
May	138 0	137 0	129 0	131 0	133 0	,,	135 0
August ..	142 0	140 0	132 0	134 0	136 0	135 0	138 0
November ..	146 0	143 0	135 0	137 0	139 0	139 0	142 0
December ..	165 0	162 0	154 0	158 0	160 0	160 0	162 0
1951—							
February ..	173 0	170 0	159 0	166 0	166 0	165 0	169 0
May	180 0	177 0	166 0	171 0	176 0	173 0	176 0
August ..	193 0	189 0	175 0	184 0	188 0	187 0	189 0
November ..	207 0	199 0	185 0	195 0	197 0	199 0	200 0
1952—							
February ..	216 0	209 0	199 0	205 0	205 0	208 0	210 0
May	223 0	212 0	207 0	211 0	214 0	214 0	216 0
August ..	235 0	224 0	213 0	224 0	222 0	222 0	227 0
November ..	237 0	228 0	216 0	229 0	228 0	230 0	231 0
1953—							
February ..	238 0	229 0	215 0	225 0	229 0	232 0	231 0

SECTION X.

COMPARATIVE INDEX-NUMBERS FOR THE SIX CAPITAL CITIES COMBINED.

*(Base of **Each Group: Weighted Average of Six Capital Cities**, 1911 = 1,000(a).)*

Period.	Retail Price Index-numbers.						Nominal Wages, Adult Males.	Real Wages. (c)	Proportion of Trade Unionists Unemployed.
	Food and Groceries.	Housing (4 and 5-roomed Houses). (b)	Food, Groceries and Housing (4 and 5-roomed Houses).	Clothing.	Miscellaneous.	All Items of Household Expenditure.			
									%
Year—									
1911 ..	1,000	1,000	1,000	(d)1,000	(d)1,000	(d)1,000	1,000	1,000	4.7
1914 ..	1,144	1,082	1,121	1,140	1,140	1,140	1,081	948	8.3
1921 ..	1,902	1,410	1,717	1,883	1,537	1,680	1,826	1,087	11.2
1929 ..	1,866	1,754	1,824	1,506	1,533	1,713	1,972	1,151	11.1
1932 ..	1,425	1,336	1,390	1,215	1,458	1,377	1,639	1,190	29.0
1933 ..	1,342	1,314	1,332	1,190	1,447	1,335	1,584	1,187	25.1
1939 ..	1,657	1,577	1,626	1,271	1,465	1,526	1,846	1,210	9.7
1940 ..	1,679	1,590	1,644	1,445	1,519	1,588	1,889	1,190	8.0
1941 ..	1,693	1,595	1,654	1,690	1,613	1,673	1,997	1,194	3.7
1942 ..	1,843	1,596	1,742	1,977	1,693	1,809	2,164	1,196	1.6
1943 ..	1,855	1,595	1,749	2,177	1,766	1,876	2,309	1,231	1.1
1944 ..	1,834	1,595	1,737	2,168	1,773	1,867	2,326	1,246	1.2
1945 ..	1,849	1,595	1,746	2,155	1,767	1,868	2,339	1,252	1.2
1946 ..	1,852	1,596	1,748	2,276	1,776	1,900	2,400	1,263	1.4
1947 ..	1,967	1,597	1,816	2,367	1,825	1,971	2,598	1,318	1.2
1948 ..	2,245	1,601	1,982	2,637	1,913	2,148	2,914	1,357	0.9
1949 ..	2,492	1,605	2,128	3,019	2,037	2,349	3,210	1,367	(e)2.0
1950 ..	2,800	1,613	2,313	3,455	2,184	2,589	3,596	1,389	0.8
1951 ..	3,649	1,649	2,827	4,156	2,555	3,124	4,495	1,439	0.7
1952 ..	4,516	1,728	3,370	4,657	2,980	3,645	5,241	1,438	2.9
Quarter—									
1939.									
September ..	1,645	1,582	1,620	1,264	1,463	1,520	1,854	1,220	10.2
1946.									
March ..	1,853	1,595	1,748	2,201	1,772	1,881	2,354	1,251	1.4
June ..	1,863	1,595	1,754	2,259	1,776	1,900	2,360	1,242	1.3
September ..	1,839	1,596	1,741	2,299	1,776	1,902	2,378	1,250	1.4
December ..	1,854	1,596	1,750	2,343	1,781	1,918	2,507	1,307	1.4
1947.									
March ..	1,915	1,596	1,785	2,305	1,798	1,933	2,527	1,307	1.4
June ..	1,945	1,597	1,803	2,319	1,802	1,948	2,545	1,306	1.2
September ..	1,974	1,597	1,820	2,367	1,846	1,978	2,630	1,330	1.1
December ..	2,035	1,598	1,857	2,478	1,853	2,026	2,690	1,328	0.9
1948.									
March ..	2,128	1,599	1,912	2,511	1,874	2,071	2,781	1,343	0.9
June ..	2,197	1,600	1,953	2,600	1,900	2,121	2,854	1,346	0.9
September ..	2,278	1,601	2,001	2,688	1,935	2,175	2,970	1,366	0.9
December ..	2,378	1,602	2,060	2,748	1,944	2,225	3,050	1,371	0.8
1949.									
March ..	2,433	1,603	2,093	2,795	1,985	2,263	3,099	1,369	0.8
June ..	2,482	1,604	2,122	2,968	2,017	2,328	3,182	1,367	0.8
September ..	2,497	1,606	2,131	3,089	2,047	2,370	3.249	1,371	(e) 5.5
December ..	2,555	1,608	2,167	3,223	2,098	2,433	3,310	1,360	0.8
1950.									
March ..	2,633	1,609	2,213	3,259	2,134	2,474	3,372	1,363	0.8
June ..	2,718	1,611	2,264	3,418	2,151	2,546	3,458	1,358	0.8
September ..	2,828	1,614	2,330	3,501	2,180	2,609	3,545	1,359	0.8
December ..	3,020	1,618	2,444	3,643	2,271	2,726	4,009	1,471	0.7
1951.									
March ..	3,201	1,641	2,560	3,760	2,381	2,843	4,142	1,457	0.7
June ..	3,443	1,646	2,705	4,151	2,498	3,042	4,387	1,442	0.8
September ..	3,819	1,651	2,928	4,283	2,611	3,224	4,601	1,427	0.6
December ..	4,133	1,656	3,116	4,429	2,731	3,388	4,850	1,432	0.7
1952.									
March ..	4,298	1,672	3,219	4,523	2,783	3,481	5,036	1,447	1.1
June ..	4,589	1,702	3,402	4,685	2,967	3,661	5,156	1,408	2.2
September ..	4,633	1,750	3,448	4,709	3,072	3,714	5,345	1,439	4.0
December ..	4,544	1,789	3,411	4,712	3,098	3,722	5,428	1,458	4.1

(a) The index-numbers given in the separate columns of the table cannot be compared with each other in order to show, for example, the relative cost of housing, and food and groceries, since the cost in 1911 *in each group or combination of groups* is made equal to 1,000. (b) *See* footnote (b) on page 10.
(c) Index of nominal weekly wage rates for adult males divided by "C" Series Retail Price Index-number.
(d) Taken back from true base (November, 1914) by means of the "A" Series Index (Food and Rent of All Houses). (e) Includes all members of reporting unions indirectly affected by the industrial dispute in the coal-mining industry; those directly affected are, however, excluded.

INDEX.

PAGE.

"A" Series Retail Price Index 38
Accidents, Industrial 139
Acts Regulating Industrial Matters 52
All Items ("C" Series) Retail Price Index 4, 5, 6, 10, 18, 38, 186
Arbitration, Industrial—
  Acts Regulating 52
  Australian Capital Territory 54
  Coal Industry 53
  Commonwealth Court 52, 73
  Commonwealth Public Service 54
  State Tribunals 54
  Stevedoring Industry 53
Arbitrator, Commonwealth Public Service 54
Associations—
  Employers' 146
  Labour (Employees') 141, 146

"B" Series Retail Price Index 4, 6, 19, 20, 24, 28, 38, 186
Base Periods of Retail Price Indexes 16
Basic Materials and Foodstuffs Wholesale Price Index 45
Basic Wage—
  Automatic Scales for adjustment of 40
  Commonwealth 73
    Females 83
    "Harvester" 73
    "Lag" in Adjustments 78
    1934 Inquiry ("Needs" Wage) 76
    1937 Inquiry ("Prosperity" Loadings) 77
    1940 Inquiry 78
    1946 Inquiry ("Interim") 79
    1949–1950 Inquiry 81
    Rates Operative 83, 183
    Review of Principles Followed, Female Wages 86
  Royal Commission, 1920 106
  States, Rates, &c. 96, 106
  Territories—
    Australian Capital Territory 89
    Northern Territory 91
Boards, Wages and Industrial 52
  Women's Employment 85

"C" Series (All Items) Retail Price Index 4, 5, 6, 10, 18, 38, 186
Central Labour Organizations 145
Child Endowment 108
  Commonwealth Public Service 109
  National Scheme 108
  New South Wales Scheme 109
Clothing Retail Price Index-numbers 6, 19, 20, 24–27, 35
  Regimen 12, 33
Coal Industry Tribunal 53
  Mines, Accidents 139
Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration 52, 73
  Employment Service 123

PAGE.

Composite Unit, Retail Prices. (*See* " Regimen ").

Conferences, International Labour 147
Statisticians' *re* Retail Prices 33, 160

Consumption Weights, Retail Prices 11–13

Control Measures—Prices 5, 9

Conversion Factors for Various Bases (Retail Price Indexes) 17

" Court " Series Index 39, 78, 80, 82, 158, 159

"D" Series Retail Price Index 39, 76

Disputes, Industrial 127
Causes 135
Duration 132
Methods of Settlement 137
Results 136
Working Days Lost (Graphs) 130, 133

Effective or Real Wages 51, 68, 186

Employees' Associations 141

Employers' Associations 146

Employment 110
Commonwealth Employment Service 123
Factories 117
Total Occupied Persons 110
Wage and Salary Earners in Civilian Employment 113, 114
Graph 113
Women's Employment Board 85

Endowment, Family 108

Factory Employment 117

Family Endowment 108
Unit, Commonwealth Court 74, 79

Federated Trade Unions 144

Field Officers, Functions 1

Food and Groceries, Retail Prices—
Average Prices 148
Index-numbers 6, 19, 20, 24–31, 34, 186
1911 Base 186
Regimen 11, 32

Graphs—
Industrial Disputes, Working Days Lost 130, 133
Wage and Salary Earners in Civilian Employment 113
Wholesale and Retail Prices, Nominal and Effective or Real Wage Index-numbers 51

Groups of Industries and Occupations iii

Harvester—All Items (" D " Series) Index 39, 76

" Harvester " Wage 73

Hours of Labour 57, 71, 163
Females 64, 67, 177
Males 63, 67, 163
Standard 71

Housing—
Average Weekly Rents 154
Changes in Constituent of Regimen 32, 34
Four and Five-roomed Houses 2, 6, 11, 19, 20, 24–32, 34, 186

PAGE.

Index-numbers—
- Hours of Labour—
  - Females 68
  - Males 67
- Retail Price—
  - "A" Series 38
  - All Items ("C" Series) 4, 5, 6, 18, 186
  - "B" Series 4, 6, 19, 20, 24, 28, 186
  - Base Periods 16
  - Basic Principles of 2
  - "C" Series (All Items) 4, 5, 6, 18, 186
  - Clothing 6, 19, 20, 24–27, 35
  - Collection of Information 1
  - Comparative (1911 base) 186
  - Compilation 2, 13
  - Conversion Factors for Various Bases 17
  - "Court" Series 39, 78, 80, 82, 158, 159
  - "D" Series (Harvester—All Items) 39, 76
  - Essential Features 3
  - Food and Groceries 6, 19, 20, 24–31, 34, 186
  - Graph 51
  - Housing—Four and Five-roomed Houses 6, 19, 20, 24–32, 186
  - International Comparisons 8, 42, 155–157
  - Levels, 1914–1952 .. .. 5, 9
  - Mass Units 11–13
  - Method of Tabulation 13
  - Miscellaneous Household Requirements 6, 19, 20, 24–27, 35
  - Population Weights for Towns 17
  - Publication of 18
  - Purpose of 3
  - Regimen 3, 10, 32, 55
  - Standards 3, 14, 32
  - Tabular Statements 18
  - Thirty Towns 21–23, 25–27, 29–31
  - Two Hundred Towns 32, 39
  - Wage Variations on 36
  - War Conditions, Effects 4, 7, 35
  - Weights 11–13
- **Wage—**
  - Effective or Real 68, 186
  - Nominal—
    - Females 61
    - Males 59, 69, 186
- Wholesale Price—
  - Basic Materials and Foodstuffs 45
  - Regimen 46
  - International Comparisons 50
  - Melbourne 48

Industrial, Accidents 139
- Acts 52
- Boards 52
- Disputes. (*See* Disputes).
- Groups, for Tabulations iii
- Legislation 52, 56
- Tribunals, Acts 52
  - Methods of Administration 52

"Interim" Basic Wage, 1946 79

International Comparisons—
- Retail Prices 8, 42, 155–157
- Wage Rates and Hours of Labour 180
- Wholesale Prices 50

International Labour Conferences 147
- Organization 147

Interstate Organizations, Trade Unions 144

PAGE.

Labour Conferences, International 147
Exchanges, State 125
Organizations 141
Central 145
"Lag" in Adjustment of Basic Wage 78
Laws Regulating Industrial Matters 52, 56
Legislation, Industrial 52, 56
"Loadings" 75, 77
Lockouts and Strikes. (*See* Disputes).

Mass Units 11–13
Melbourne Wholesale Price Index 48
Membership, Trade Unions 141
Mining Accidents 139
Miscellaneous Household Requirements, Retail Price Index-numbers 6, 19, 20, 24–27, 35
Regimen 13

"Needs" Basic Wage 77
Nominal Wages 59, 68, 186

Occupational Groups for Tabulations iii
Rates of Wage and Hours of Labour 163, 177, 180
Occupied Persons 110
Operations, Industrial Tribunals 52
Organizations, Central Labour 145
Registered 146
Trade Unions 141

Population Weights (Retail Price Indexes) 17
Prices, Average Retail, Food and Groceries, Capital Cities 148–153
Collection of 1
Control Measures 5, 9
International Comparisons 8, 42, 50, 155–157
Publication of Retail Prices and Price Index-numbers 18
Retail. (*See* "Retail Prices").
Variations over War Periods in Various Countries 8, 42
Wholesale, Index-numbers 45–50
Production, Value of 71
Productive Activity 71
"Prosperity" Loading 77
Public Service Arbitrator 54

Rates of Wage 57
Real or Effective Wages 51, 68, 186
Regimens—
Retail Prices 3, 10, 32, 35
Changes 32
Clothing 12, 33
Cost, Percentage Distribution of 11, 15
Food and Groceries 11, 32
Groups and Sections 10
Miscellaneous Items 13, 33
Wholesale Price (Basic Materials and Foodstuffs) Index 46
Registered Organizations 146
Rents. (*See* "Housing").

PAGE.

Retail Prices—
"A" Series Index 38
All Items ("C" Series) Index 4, 5, 6, 10, 18, 38, 186
Average Monthly, Food and Groceries, Capital Cities 148–153
"B" Series Index 4, 6, 19, 20, 24, 28, 38, 186
Base Periods of Indexes 16
Basis of Index-numbers 2
"C" Series (All Items) Index 4, 5, 6, 10, 18, 38, 186
Clothing, Index-numbers 6, 19, 20, 24–27, 35
Regimen 12, 33
Collection of Information 1
Compilation of Indexes 2, 13
"Court" Series Index 39, 78, 80, 82, 158, 159
"D" Series Index 39, 76
Food and Groceries 6, 19, 20, 24–32, 34, 148, 186
Graph 51
Housing—
All Houses 32
Four and Five-roomed Houses 2, 6, 11, 19, 20, 24–32, 34, 186
Index-numbers. (*See* "Index-numbers").
International Comparisons 8, 42, 155–157
Levels, 1914–1952 .. .. 5, 9
Mass Units 11–13
Method of Tabulation of Index-numbers 13
Miscellaneous Household Requirements, Index-numbers .. 6, 19, 20, 24–27, 35
Regimen 13
Population Weights for Towns 17
Publication of Index-numbers 18
Regimen 3, 10, 32, 35
Relative Expenditure of Items and Groups 11, 15
Standards 3, 14, 32
Tabular Statements of Index-numbers 18
Thirty Towns 21–23, 25–27, 29–31
Two Hundred Towns 32, 39
Wage Variations on Index-numbers 36
War Conditions, Effects 4, 7, 35
Weights 11–13
Royal Commission on the Basic Wage, 1920 106

Sickness and Unemployment Benefits (Commonwealth) 125
Standard Hours of Work 71
Standards for Retail Prices 3, 14, 32
State Labour Exchanges 125
Industrial Tribunals 54
Statisticians' Conference on Retail Prices 33, 160
Stevedoring Industry Board 53
Strikes and Lockouts. (*See* "Disputes").

Territories—
Australian Capital Territory—
Basic Wage 89
Industrial Authority 54
Northern Territory—
Basic Wage 91
Thirty Towns, Retail Price Index-numbers 21–23, 25–27, 29–31
Towns, Population Weights 17
Trade Unions, Classified by Numbers of Members 144
Industrial Groups 142
Interstate or Federated 144
Number and Membership 141
Ratio to Total Wage and Salary Earners 143
Unemployment Amongst Members 119
Two Hundred Towns Retail Price Index-munbers 32, 39

PAGE.

Unemployment. (*See also* "Employment")—
Commonwealth Unemployment and Sickness Benefits 125
State Labour Exchanges 125
Total 118
Trade Unions 119
Australia 120
Industrial Groups 121
States 121
Various Countries 123

Unions, Trade 141

Wage and Salary Earners in Civilian Employment 114

Wages, Acts Regulating 52
Automatic Adjustment 40
Basic. (*See* "Basic Wage").
Effective or Real 51, 68, 186
Graph 51
International Comparisons 180
Nominal Weekly, Females 61
Males 59, 69, 186
Hourly, Females 64, 66
Males 63, 65
Occupational Rates, Females 177
Males 163
Comparison—Sydney, London and Auckland 180
Scales for Automatic Adjustments 40
Variations on Retail Price Index-numbers 36

War Periods—
Control Measures over Prices 5, 9
Retail Price Regimen and Index—Effects 35
Retail Prices—Increases, 1914–1919 and 1939–1952, Australia and Other Countries 7–9

Weights—
Population 17
Regimen—
Retail Prices 11–13
Wholesale Prices 45, 46

Wholesale Prices—
Basic Materials and Foodstuffs 45
International Comparisons 50
Melbourne Index 48

Women's Employment Board 85

Working Hours, Standard 71

By Authority: L. F. JOHNSTON, Commonwealth Government Printer, Canberra